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OPINION METER

This week's poll:

Have you ever reported any pricing discrepancies to the Attorney General's consumer counsel?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

Banking School Grad

Bank of Guam vice president and Corporate Banking Group manager Kalistus Rengiil recently graduated from the Pacific Coast Banking School.

Business...Page 9

Capital Punishment

The first woman executed in the United States in five years was put to death in Virginia on Thursday.

Nation...Page 10

Top Toy

It's getting crowded in the race to succeed Zhu Zhu Pets as the next hot holiday toy.

Youngstyle...Page 18

Doyle gets 8 years for sexually abusing 2 boys. PAGE 2
NMC's presidential search panel revises timeline. PAGE 3

BUDGET DEADLOCK REMAINS

Fitial: At least 383 may lose jobs

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The conference committee working on the $132 million budget bill was evenly split on a 3-3 vote last night to cut work hours by eight per pay period with seven unpaid holidays in fiscal year 2011—as proposed by the Senate.

6 DAYS left before the start of the new fiscal year

There are only six days to go before the start of fiscal year 2011 on Oct. 1.

The voting, which began at 6:12pm in the House chamber on Capital Hill, came hours after Gov. Benigno R. Fitial told the committee that at least 383 employees in the Executive Branch will be laid off as early as Oct. 1 or 14 if the Senate's proposal passes the Legislature.

This does not include those who may be laid off in

See BUDGET on Page 4

Well over a thousand take part in coastal cleanup

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Over a thousand government and private sector employees, organizations, their families and students are taking part in environmental protection by joining the international coastal cleanup that began yesterday and continues today on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

"Even though it's payless payday today for us, we still want to volunteer our time and effort to keep our island clean. We don't need to get paid in order for us to protect our environment," said Joce-

See CLEANUP on Page 4

Department of Public Lands compliance director Raymond Cruz, right, and two other DPL employees haul bags with trash they picked up along the road from Northern Marianas College to the Shell gasoline station in As Lito/Dandan yesterday afternoon, joining over a thousand other volunteers for the coastal cleanup yesterday and today on Saipan, Tinian and Rota.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Similac powder infant formulas recalled

The Bureau of Environmental Health Department is working closely with Micronesian Brokers Inc. on the voluntary recall of certain Similac brand powder infant formulas.

The bureau is currently investigating to make sure that none of the recalled products are being sold in the CNMI.

The local recall was prompted after Abbott Laboratories, the company that produces Similac products, initiated a recall of the infant

See SIMILAC on Page 4

The illustration gives an example of where to find and identify the batch number on the Similac® container.

INFO FOR PARENTS, CAREGIVERS

Products with affected lot numbers should be returned to the store it was purchase from with a receipt.

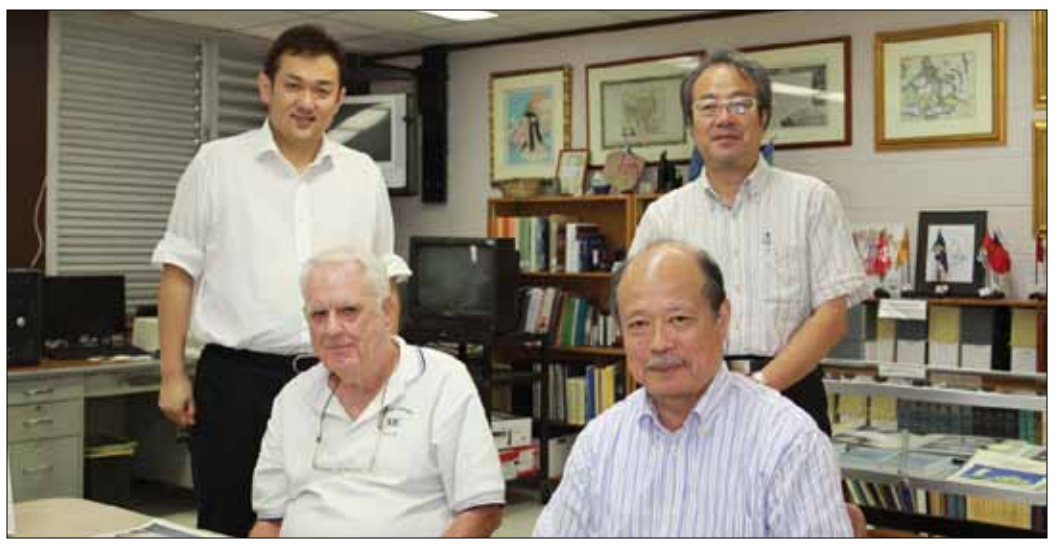
Parents and caregivers can also visit www.similac.com/recall and type in their lot number to find out if a product is included in this recall or call (800) 986-8850, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Local contacts should the public have any questions or concerns about this matter:

- **Kitz Barja from Micronesian Brokers Inc. at 322-0318 or email kbarja@pticom.com**
- **BEH Office at 664-4870/72.**

Local

Doyle gets 8 years for sexually abusing 2 boys



VISITING PROFESSORS NMC

Sociology professors from Japan recently visited the Northern Marianas College to meet with historian and NMC instructor Sam McPhetres, seated left. The professors from Matsuyama University in Tokyo were exploring the possibility of heightening the number of Japanese programs offered in the CNMI. During their three-day stay on Saipan, the professors also visited the Historic Preservation Office, Man'amko Center, and other places to learn more about the history of the Northern Marianas Islands and Micronesia during the Japanese administration. From left, Yasuhiro Kusuhashi, McPhetres, Makoto Tsuruki, and Fumihara Watanabe.

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Mark Thomas Doyle, a 45-year-old man who pleaded guilty to sexually abusing two boys in exchange for money at an Internet shop on Saipan, was sentenced yesterday to eight years in prison.

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman sentenced Doyle to 12 years in prison, all suspended except for the mandatory eight years, for two offenses of sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree.

Wiseman remanded him to the Department of Corrections. He will be released on March 9, 2018.

After completing his sentence, Doyle will be placed on supervised probation for five years.

The judge ordered Doyle to write a letter of apology to the three victims, register as a sex offender, undergo HIV testing, and perform 200 hours of community service.

He was also required to pay a $100 fine, $100 court assessment fee, plus a probation fee to be assessed by the Office of Adult Probation.

The Office of the Attorney General charged Doyle with four counts of sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree, and two counts of assault and battery.

On Wednesday, Doyle pleaded guilty to two counts of sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree as part of a plea bargain. Wiseman put off accepting the plea agreement, expressing concern with the seriousness of the case and saying he wants to determine whether the defendant has previous convictions.

Wiseman accepted Doyle's plea and the plea agreement yesterday.

The plea agreement stated that on Feb. 27, 2010, Doyle, being 45, sexually abused the two boys under the age of 13.

Assistant attorney general Brian Gallagher on Wednesday explained to the court that they were not able to prove their case with respect to the third victim. He said the government feels the terms and conditions of the plea agreement are fair.

Doyle was represented by assistant public defender Douglas Hartig.

Police arrested him in March 2010.

In 2002, Michael J. Dodd, 60, a former teacher at an elementary school on Saipan, was sentenced by the Superior Court to 10 years in jail for molesting several children, but was given parole after five years.

Dodd later moved to Cambodia where he was convicted in August 2009 and sentenced to 10 years in prison for sexually abusing a 14-year-old Vietnamese girl.

ON CONSENT DECREE WITH DOJ ON PRISON FACILITY

Buckingham: CNMI is in overall compliance

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

There are only a few remaining issues for the CNMI to address under the consent decree with the U.S. Department of Justice pertaining to the construction of adult prison facility, according to Attorney General Edward T. Buckingham.

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune*, Buckingham said they are currently focusing on a few issues, primarily a review of medical care.

"We hope to present the case to the U.S. District Court for closure in the not-too-distant future," he said.

Construction of the $20.9-million adult prison facility in Susupe began in 2002 with initial cost at only about $17 million. It was opened in February 2008.

The CNMI was forced to construct the building under the consent decree signed with the Department of Justice after DOJ saw the deplorable conditions of the old prison facility.

Buckingham said the CNMI has never been fined by DOJ as the government is in overall compliance with the consent decree.

"We need to work through, together with DOJ, the medical issues and answer their questions and address policy areas," he said.

Buckingham said he could not predict the date of the final closure of the consent decree, but that they are progressing as quickly as they can and do have a cooperative relationship with DOJ.

Buckingham, who used to handle the consent decree issue, has tapped assistant attorney general James T. Michell to handle the case.

"I remain involved in helping move the case along," he added.

Mitchell is in ongoing contact with DOJ, including conference calls and exchange of information.

Former Department of Corrections commissioner Dolores San Nicolas last year pushed for an end to the consent decree.

"DOC cannot move on as long as it is under DOJ's control. Consent decree is telling you that you do not know how to operate a prison," San Nicolas had said.

WASC approves six-year accreditation for KagES

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Kagman Elementary School received a six-year accreditation from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges after showing significant progress in its schoolwide action plan.

WASC accrediting commission for schools chair Dale J. Mitchell praised the school's continuing efforts to improve services and operation.

Kagman Elementary School principal Ignacia Demapan learned about the commission's decision Thursday.

WASC granted the six-year accreditation with a midterm review, expiring on June 30, 2016.

"This action was taken after a careful study of the visiting committee report, which noted many laudable aspects of the school. The commission is confident that your continuing efforts to improve the school will be reinforced by prompt attention to the critical areas for follow-up integrated into the action plan," Mitchell wrote in his letter to Demapan.

The midterm review consists of a written report from the school outlining progress made in implementing the schoolwide action plan and a one-day visit by a two-member team.

Mitchell said the review must be completed by the end of the third year of the six-year term. Kagman Elementary School is expected to receive the certificate of accreditation from WASC soon.

Kagman Elementary School was established in 2000. WASC granted the school its first six-year accreditation in 2004. It expired this year.

Last April 12, a five-member team from the commission visited the school and recommended the granting of another six-year full term.

Demapan was elated with the commission's decision and shared this achievement with the school's stakeholders: teachers, students, parents, and Kagman community members.

She said getting another six-year full accreditation term is an assurance to parents and community members that students of Kagman Elementary School are receiving quality education and learning from their mentors.

Demapan recognized the valuable contributions of stakeholders in completing the school's self-study report. She assured that the school will continue all the progress and achievements of its students.

This school year, Kagman Elementary School has 535 students from kindergarten to fifth grade. Majority of its teachers and employees are highly qualified in their fields.

NMC's presidential search panel revises timeline

»Finalists for NMC president not likely to be identified soon

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The search for the next president of the Northern Marianas College may take a little longer than expected after the presidential search committee revised its schedule yesterday.

The decision to extend the September 2010 timeline to an unspecified date in the immediate future came about during the group's closed-door meeting yesterday.

Presidential search committee chair Maria Paz Younis disclosed yesterday that the panel is set to conduct its interview of the candidates on Oct. 1.

Younis admitted this schedule will still depend on the outcome of the preliminary reference check being conducted on applicants.

She said the committee was set to receive yesterday the findings of the preliminary reference checks. This has not been submitted to the group as of press time.

"We're expecting to receive it today…but if we don't, hopefully by Monday or Tuesday. So the interview would also depend on that preliminary reference check," she said.

When asked if the Board of Regents has adopted the committee's revised timeline, Younis said the resolution that created the panel allows changes to the schedule.

"It's just a timeline…and there's nothing in the resolution that says we have to meet a requirement at a specific date. Just like other timelines or plans, it could always change," she said.

Younis remains mum on the total number of applicants the committee has received, as well as the number of local and off-island candidates.

But she admitted that the extension of the deadline for applications—from Aug. 9 to Aug. 31—was due to not having a sufficient pool of candidates.

"Now we have a good number of applicants…several," she said.

NMC was placed on show-cause status on June 30, with the accrediting commission citing 10 concerns. These included the college's unstable leadership due to the high turnover rate for the chief executive officer post.

In the span of only seven years, NMC has already had 10 presidents. The last—Dr. Carmen Fernandez—was fired due to alleged policy violations.

The college has until Oct. 15 to defend itself and explain why it should be allowed to retain its accreditation with the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. The decision is expected after the commission's assembly in January 2011.

Younis admitted yesterday that the committee may not able to submit a final candidate before Oct. 15.

"That's hard to say…because there are so many contingencies and factors that will come into play [in the selection process]," she added.

Based on the original timeline, the committee was expected to complete its search by September.

Dive shop manager helps solve burglary at another dive shop

A Superior Court judge has imposed a $10,000 cash bail on an ex-convict who allegedly burglarized a dive shop, stole some dive equipment, and tried to sell them to another dive shop.

During Thursday's hearing, Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo found probable cause to detain Roland H. Muna for burglary and theft charges.

Preliminary hearing was set for Sept. 29, 2010 at 9am.

Muna was directed to stay away from DPI Dive Shop and One Coin Diving Inc. and its staff and management.

Assistant public defender Douglas Hartig was appointed to represent Muña.

At the hearing, detective Jesse J. Stole took the witness stand to narrate how Crime Stoppers tips led to Muña's arrest.

Stole said that Eun Teack Jung had called the Department of Public Safety on Sept. 21 at 5:30am to report a burglary and theft incident at his dive shop, the DPI Dive Shop in Garapan.

Jung told a responding police officer that an unknown burglar broke the locks to the back door of the dive shop.

Stolen were a dive computer, two scuba pro regulators, one black backpack, two underwater cameras, three flashlights, a black briefcase with personal documents, and a safe box filled with documents and company checks.

Stole said that, on Wednesday, Sgt. Paul Ogumoro informed him that a tipster had called the NMI Crime Stoppers Program and reported that two men were selling dive equipment at a dive shop north of the Saipan World Resort.

Stole said he and two other detectives responded to One Coin Dive Diving to verify the tip, but when they arrived police officer Jason Tarkong was already there, "detaining" Muña and Raymond Cabrera.

Tarkong told the detectives that Muña and Cabrera were trying to sell some dive equipment to the workers at the One Coin Diving Inc.

Jung later arrived at the scene and identified a dive computer, two scuba pro regulators, and a backpack as the items that were stolen from his shop.

Further investigation showed that the day before, Tuesday, Muña had tried to sell an underwater camera to the general manager of One Coin Diving Inc., Stole said.

The general manager declined, telling Muña they don't one. That night, the manager learned that the DPI Dive Shop in Garapan had been burglarized.

When Muña returned to One Coin Diving the following day, Wednesday, the manager called the staff of DPI Dive Shop.

Police then arrived and detained Muña. Cabrera was placed under investigation.

Stole said Cabrera told police that Muña had asked him to drop him off at One Coin Diving to check on a friend.

Cabrera claimed that Muña put a black trash bag in the trunk of his car before they left Chalan Piao.

When they arrived at One Coin Diving, police came.

According to assistant attorney general Russell Lorfing, Muna has many prior convictions for burglary and theft. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Navy, Air Force training on FDM

Santa Rita, Guam—The U.S. Navy and U.S. Air Force will conduct training on Farallon de Medinilla on Sept. 28, 2010, from noon to midnight.

The general public, especially fisherman, commercial pilots and marine tour operators, are advised to stay clear from these areas during the times and date indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants. Farallon de Medinilla plays a special and unique role in national defense because its location provides access frequency that supports established training requirements. ***(USN)***

Man gets 30-day sentence for assaulting another, two cops

A man accused of beating up another in Tanapag and assaulting two police officers who responded to the scene was sentenced yesterday to 30 days in prison.

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo sentenced Winfred Atalig Pua to a year in prison, all suspended except for 30 days, with credit for the four days he had already served in jail.

The 36-year-old Pua will start serving his 26-day sentence at the Department of Corrections on Oct. 8, 2010.

After serving his sentence, Pua will be placed on a year of probation.

Govendo required Pua to attend an alcohol or substance abuse counseling with the Community Guidance Center.

The Office of the Attorney General charged Pua with two counts of assault and battery, one count of obstructing justice, one count of resisting arrest, and one count of disturbing the peace.

Pua pleaded guilty to two counts of assault and battery and one count of resisting arrest as part of a plea bargain.

The case arose from an incident on July 10, 2010, when Pua hit Sheldon Kaainoa several times in the face.

When police officers arrived, Pua charged at officer Buddy Igitol, kicked him in the abdomen, and threatened to kill him. Pua also kneed officer Abraham Villagomez in the groin. He struggled with the officers and resisted their efforts to arrest him.

Police learned that earlier that day, Pua, his girlfriend Annette Castro, and Kaainoa were drinking at Pau Pau Beach when a misunderstanding occurred, leading to the attack on Kaainoa. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Kagman detention guard pleads not guilty

Tyron Farley Reyes Fitial, the detention guard who allegedly used his position at the Kagman Juvenile Detention to force three female wards to engage in sex acts, has pleaded not guilty.

During Thursday's arraignment, the 24-year-old Fitial was charged with three counts of deprivation of rights under color of law, and one count of enticement of a minor.

At the request of Fitial's counsel, Joseph James Norita Camacho, U.S. District Court for the NMI visiting judge Philip Pro moved the Oct. 12, 2010, trial date to Dec. 6, 2010.

Fitial was remanded to the custody of the U. S. Marshal.

According to the indictment, on or about October 2009 through February 2010, Fitial kicked and hit a minor and forced the victim to engage in sex acts.

The alleged offense reportedly resulted in bodily injury, and involved acts of aggravated sexual abuse against the minor—a ward of the Kagman Juvenile Detention and Correctional Facility.

In that same period, Fitial allegedly coerced another minor to perform sex acts.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation arrested Fitial on June 11 after the filing of the original indictment. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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PRO SE:

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN RE THE MATTER OF THE PETITION TO APPOINT GENERAL GUARDIANSHIP FOR: **JEALYN JANE LIZAMA** Minor Child By NOEL TENORIO CHARGUALAF and RITA LIZAMA CHARGUALAF Petitioner.	)))))))))))))))	FCD GU CIVIL ACTION NO. 10-0472 NOTICE OF HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Petition for Appointment of Guardianship for the above-named minor child by Noel T. and Rita L. Chargualaf, Petitioners, was filed with the above-entitled Honorable Court and is open for review at the office of the Clerk of the said Court in Susupe, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

A HEARING of said petition for Guardianship will be held at the above-entitled Honorable Court at Guma Hustisia Building, Susupe, Saipan, NMI, before the Honorable Kenneth Govendo on the 5th day of October, 2010 at 1:30pm or as soon as thereafter.

Bernadita A. Sablan
Clerk of Court
/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision (ROD) for the Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Military Relocation

On behalf of the Department of Defense (DoD), the Department of the Navy (DoN) and the Department of the Army (Army), after carefully weighing the environmental consequences of the proposed action, as well as considering operational and training requirements, strategic requirements, obligations under treaties and other international agreements, public comments, and cost; announce their decision to proceed with the Guam and Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Military Relocation. A Record of Decision (ROD) has been prepared for the Guam and the CNMI Military Relocation based on the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and the careful consideration of all comments provided by federal regulatory agencies, Guam regulatory agencies, and the public.

Implementing the actions necessary to support the military relocation efforts analyzed in the EIS will be a multi-agency, multi-year effort undertaken by the DoN, Army, Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Guam utilities, Guam agencies, and various private entities. The ROD selects to implement the preferred alternatives as denoted in the FEIS for each of the following actions, with exceptions as noted:

(1) *Marine Corps:* (a) Development and construction of facilities and infrastructure to support approximately 8,600 Marines and their 9,000 dependents being relocated from Okinawa to Guam. (b) Development and construction of facilities and infrastructure to support training and operations on Guam and Tinian;
DoN has elected to defer selection of a specific site for the construction and operation of a live fire training range complex in the Route 15 area on Guam pending completion of the Section 106 consultation process under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). Likewise, a selection regarding implementation of a roadway improvement project calling for a realignment of Route 15 is hereby deferred pending selection of a specific site for the construction.

(2) *Navy:* Construction of a new deep-draft wharf with shoreside infrastructure improvements creating the capability in Apra Harbor, Guam to support a transient nuclear powered aircraft carrier;
DoN has elected to defer selection of a specific site for the construction and operation of a transient aircraft carrier berth within Apra Harbor for the near term. However, the analysis presented in the FEIS, including the marine resources impacts analysis, provides sufficient information to allow the DoN to fully consider the direct, indirect and cumulative environmental impacts of locating a transient aircraft carrier berth and make a programmatic decision to locate a transient aircraft carrier berth generally within Apra Harbor, which is the only deep draft harbor on the island of Guam that could support such a berth.

(3) *Army:* Development of facilities and infrastructure on Guam to support relocating approximately 600 military personnel and their 900 dependents to establish and operate an Air and Missile Defense Task Force (AMDTF).
As of the date of this ROD, the DoD has not decided to construct and operate an AMDTF on Guam. The decision on whether to assign this mission to the Army will be made pending the results of the ongoing regional and global Ballistic Missile Defense architectural and capability studies. It will also be based in part on the EIS for this proposed action with Guam as one site that is under consideration for an AMDTF mission. The FEIS was prepared noting that if the mission were assigned to Army, the alternatives presented in the FEIS represent how Army could implement the action on Guam. Army has selected the preferred alternatives described in Volume 5 of the FEIS as the appropriate manner to implement the proposed action if and when the mission is assigned.

(4) *Utilities:* Renovation and development of additional capacity for power, water, and wastewater systems, both on base and off base, to support the increased demand from the new Marine Corps Base and associated growth in DoD and civilian population caused by the Relocation.

(5) *Off-base Roadways:* Improvements to off base roads, bridges, and intersections to support increased traffic and offset significant impacts caused by the Relocation.

Each of the major actions noted above encompasses several construction projects to provide required facilities and infrastructure. The Notice of Availability and a summary of the ROD will be published in the Federal Register. The ROD in its entirety is available on http://www.guambuildupeis.us.

Family Court's Client Services Program wins national award

Due to its recognized success in educating people about legal and family court issues, the National Criminal Justice Association has honored the Northern Mariana Islands Family Court Client Services Program with its Outstanding Criminal Justice Program Award. The award is given out annually at the National Forum on Criminal Justice and Public Safety. This year's conference took take place Aug. 1-3 in Ft. Myers, Florida.

The FCCS Program has a Pro Se Center that assists with filing legal forms for indigent litigants, a Separating Parents Program that teaches parents about the effects of separation on children and a Judges' Training program to provide judges with legal education in family issues.

"The creation, implementation and ongoing 'evidence based' success of the FCCS program exemplifies a good investment of BJA dollars awarded to CNMI," said Jerome Ierome, executive director of the CNMI Criminal Justice Planning Agency. "It is overwhelming for me to showcase on a national platform the Family Court's vision of working with limited resources to improve services to all families who do not have the means to get their fair share of the legal system."

The FCCS Program has had a positive effect on many cases and has improved the well-being of individuals affected by separation and divorce. The number of Order to Show Cause cases, involving the obligation of parents to support their children, have decreased from 118 in 2003 to 27 in 2009. ***(PR)***

CLEANUP

From Page 1

lyn Aldan-Kapileo, an employee at the Department of Public Lands.

DPL was one of the agencies and groups that began their cleanup yesterday despite the alternating sun and rain.

Most of the volunteers will be cleaning up coastal areas, roadways and tourist spots this morning.

As of yesterday afternoon, at least 58 groups with over 1,320 volunteers have signed up with the Coastal Resources Management, which is the lead agency coordinating the cleanup.

Rachel Zuercher, CRM planner and coordinator for the 2010 coastal cleanup, said more volunteers have signed up this year than last year.

"It's very encouraging for us (CRM) to see so many of Saipan's citizens taking an active role to ensure the health and beauty of the coastal ecosystems of the CNMI," Zuercher told *Saipan Tribune*.

Volunteers are encouraging citizens to always pack trash after picnics, pick up any litter they see, and most importantly, cut down on disposable goods.

"By using refillable water bottles, refusing plastic bags at the grocery store or market, and buying goods with less or no packaging, we can make an even larger impact on the health of our environment," Zuercher added.

Raymond Cruz, compliance director at DPL, led seven other DPL personnel armed with black trash bags and gloves in picking up 60 to 70 lbs. of trash from the roadside fronting Northern Marianas College to the As Lito/Dandan intersection where the Shell gas station is located.

"It makes us feel more responsible for the environment. I just wish that people won't leave their trash anywhere they want," he said. The unforgiving sun at 12:45pm to almost 2pm made the cleanup much harder for many.

In the San Antonio area, 10 Pacific Islands Club personnel picked up trash along the road and on the beach sites near PIC starting at 2pm yesterday.

Evan Hunsberger, PIC training manager, said they decided to hold their monthly cleanup yesterday to coincide with CRM's coastal cleanup.

"Our business is tourism and one of the important things we do to keep this island clean and beautiful for our tourists is to pick up trash along the roads and in the beach areas. We want our guests to appreciate this island," said Hunsberger, who was among those picking up trash by the road along with PIC's Su Jung Lee, Ray Moreno, Dennis Tababa, among other hotel personnel.

The CNMI joins the rest of the world in the international coastal cleanup, the world's largest volunteer effort to help protect the ocean.

For young and old volunteers, spending an hour or more to pick up trash is an investment for future generations. Trash is one of the most widespread pollution problems threatening the ocean and waterways.

Others also consider the cleanup as a temporary reprieve from the economic woes and a threat of a government shutdown.

While CRM is the lead agency coordinating this year's coastal cleanup, the Division of Environmental Quality's Joe Kaipat is coordinating all trash pickup.

Besides CRM and DEQ which also provided bags and gloves to volunteers, also instrumental in the event are the trailers and trash bins from the Department of Public Works and Department of Lands and Natural Resources/Parks and Recreation. The Marianas Islands Nature Alliance also donated reusable bags for participating groups. Beautify CNMI has also assisted with publicity.

"It is certainly a huge group effort," Zuercher added.

The cleanup locations cover different areas on Saipan, Tinian and Rota.

Last year's cleanup diverted hundreds of bags of trash from CNMI's shoreline, and disposed of the waste properly.

This year, on the 25th anniversary of the international event, CRM and DEQ are hoping to make an even larger impact.

"The event teaches the CNMI community that proper disposal of trash on land is extremely important to the health of the marine environment. What we throw on land ends up in our waterways and ocean," Rota coordinator Bill Pendergrass earlier said.

The event aims to highlight the impact that volunteers working over just a few hours can have on the state of coastal areas.

The following are some of the participating government agencies, private companies, organizations and schools and their cleanup locations on Saipan:

Brabu Pharmacy (from Brabu on Middle Road to the 13 Fishermen Monument), Century Group of Companies and *Saipan Tribune* (back of TSL Plaza), City Trust Bank (Beach Road from Oleai going south), CNMI WIC Program (San Roque Beach), Committee to Elect Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Kilili Beach), and CTSI Logistics (Susupe Park).

Also joining are D&Q Saipan Co. Ltd. and Cosmos Distributing (Tanapag Beach across from the church), DFS Saipan Ltd. (Old Man by the Sea), Department of Lands and Natural Resources (normal Parks and Recreation Division routes), DPL (Dandan roadside), Fiesta Resort & Spa (Makaka Beach), Friends of the Mariana Islands (South Laolao Beach pavilion), Grace Christian Academy (Micro Beach/ Smiling Cove), Guangdong Development Co. Ltd. (Lally 4), Hyatt Regency Saipan (Micro Beach), and IT&E/ Shell Marianas/Saipan Southern High School (Oleai Bar to MVA).

The list also has Kagman Elementary School (Tank Beach), Kagman High School Marine Biology Club (Tank Beach), Kagman High School National Honor Society (Ladder Beach), Mariana Islands Nature Alliance (Paupau Beach), Marianas Baptist Academy (Pakpak Beach), Marianas Trekking (Wing Beach road and forested areas), Marianas Visitors Authority/NMDOA (North LaoLao Beach dive site), Marianas Water Works Corp. (Cow Town Beach), and Mount Carmel High School (Middle Road).

CRM also listed No Ka Oi Saipan (Paupau Beach), Northern Islands Mayor's Office (Carolinian Utt), Northern Marianas Academy (Jeffries Beach), Northern Marianas Badminton Association (Ada Gym), Northern Marianas College's Environment and Natural Resources Organization (Forbidden Island), Office of Rep. Joe M. Palacios (R-Saipan) and Rep. Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan) (Obyan Beach), and the Office of Rep. Tony Sablan (R-Saipan) (north of PIC to San Antonio Elementary School).

The list also includes Pacific Marine Resources Institute (Quartermaster to 13 Fishermen's Monument), PDM Promoters (Hafa Adai Hotel to Garapan Fishing Base), PIC Saipan (Agingan Point to PIC), POI Aviation (Obyan Beach), Port Users and Operators Committee (Unai Sadog Tasi in Lower Base), Phi Theta Kappa (13 Fishermen's Monument to Garapan Fishing Base), and Rotary Club of Saipan (Fishing Base).

Completing the list of volunteers are Saipan Grand Hotel (Sugar Dock to Saipan Grand Hotel), Saipan International School (Coral Ocean Point), Saipan Marianas Lions Club (Beach Road Pathway), Saipan Mayor's Office (Wing Beach), Saipan Seventh-Day Adventist (San Antonio from SDA School), Saipan Southern High School JROTC-Manta Ray Battalion (Lally 4), Saipan Swim Club (Marine Beach), SHARC (Outer Cove/Seaplane ramps), Saipro 4-H (4-H building and beach), Shirley's Coffee Shop (Sugar Dock heading south), SSFM International Inc. (Garapan), Tsunami Swim Club (Managaha), U.S. Coast Guard (Bird Island Beach), and Winzler & Kelly (Quartermaster south to 13 Fishermen Monument).

BUDGET

From Page 1

the Judiciary and Legislature.

Without a balanced budget passed before the start of the new fiscal year, the government will be forced to shut down, as the constitution requires.

When the government shuts down, only essential or critical service positions will continue working and get paid. The rest won't be required to work and won't get paid until a balanced budget is passed.

Despite last night's impasse, nobody made a motion to dissolve the conference committee just yet.

The panel said they will meet again Monday morning, when the House promised to pass revenue-generating bills. The Senate also vowed to hold a session to immediately act on the House-passed bills.

Rep. Ray Basa (Cov-Saipan), Vice Speaker Felicidad Ogumoro (Cov-Saipan) and Rep. Eli Cabrera (Cov-Saipan) stood firm on a 16-hour cut per pay period and 13 unpaid holidays.

But Sen. Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota), Senate Vice President Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian) and Sen. Ralph Torres (R-Saipan), who voted "yes" on Torres' motion, said the House of Representatives and the Fitial administration should consider the Senate-amended bill over that of the House, which could generate additional $22.719 million.

They said even half of this amount—$11 million—could make up for the difference in savings between the Senate's proposal and the House proposal of 16 hours cut per pay period with 13 unpaid holidays.

But the House members said the governor made it clear that he won't sign any bill with a tax increase, which the Senate incorporated in the House's business license fee increase bill.

That bill is now with Basa's Ways and Means Committee.

Ogumoro repeatedly said during the meeting that the Senate should reconsider its killing of the Speaker Froilan Tenorio's (Cov-Saipan) casino bill, which she described as a revenue-generating bill.

But Hofschneider said the Senate already made clear its opposition to a Saipan casino bill. He also said that even if Tenorio's bill is passed, it will take years before revenues could be realized.

He pointed out that it seems the conference committee will have to choose between a casino bill that won't have immediate impact and the Senate-amended House revenue-generating bill.

Cabrera, Basa and Ogumoro repeatedly said senators have to realize that by not cutting work hours by 16 and having 13 unpaid holidays, they are authorizing the governor to lay off a minimum of 383 people.

Taimanao, Hofschneider and Torres said they also do not want anybody to lose their job, that is why they are asking the House to consider passing revenue-generating bills that will offset the difference between their proposals.

The senators said cutting work hours by 16, or from 80 to 64 hours per pay period, is "too drastic."

They also proposed yesterday for their House counterparts to consider an eight-hour cut and seven unpaid holidays for at least the first quarter of fiscal year 2011 and, if further cuts are needed, then that's the time the Senate could consider a 16-hour cut.

House members countered this, saying senators should be the one to consider a 16-hour cut and if the results of the quarterly financial evaluation prove that this could be reduced to eight hours, and then they will support this.

"But it's a cash flow issue… If we vote on eight hours, we are authorizing the governor to lay off 383 employees," Cabrera reiterated.

Press secretary Angel Demapan, when asked for comment, confirmed that the governor announced during a morning closed-door meeting with four of the conferees—three from the House and one from the Senate—of a possible layoff of 383 employees in the Executive Branch alone.

The conference committee set a 3:30pm meeting yesterday that was open to the public, but it started close to 4pm.

The House gallery was full of senators and House members, along with business people, other government officials and employees, and private citizens.

On more than three occasions, the committee got up for breaks. One of the breaks that was supposed to be for only five minutes became almost 30 minutes, resuming the meeting at 6pm.

The conferees went back and forth arguing on the merits and perils of a 16-hour cut versus an eight-hour cut.

Former representative Tina Sablan, who was in the gallery until about 6:30pm, said the bigger question is whether the government has made enough cuts to trim its fat.

She said there's still room for cuts, including the governor's advisers and professional service contracts.

Sablan also said that it seems House members are blackmailing senators to reconsidering the defeat of the speaker's casino bill.

"They are holding the CNMI people hostage. The people of Saipan already said no. It's time for us to think of new ideas," she said.

While the conference committee remains deadlocked, thousands of government employees are now bracing for a government shutdown—at least until a new budget is passed.

SIMILAC

From Page 1

formula due to an internal quality review, which detected the possible presence of a small common beetle in Similac powder formula products produced in one of the manufacturing facilities.

Abbott is presently implementing a plan to address this matter in the affected manufacturing facility, which is expected to be completed shortly. No other facilities or products are involved in this recall.

According to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, "while the formula containing these beetles poses no immediate health risk, there is a possibility that infants, who consume formula containing the beetles or their larvae, could experience symptoms of gastrointestinal discomfort and refusal to eat as a result of small insect parts irritating the GI tract. If these symptoms persist for more than a few days, a physician should be consulted."

The recall of these powder infant formulas includes:

- Certain Similac powder product lines offered in plastic containers.
- Certain Similac powder product lines offered in sizes such as 8-ounce, 12.4-ounce and 12.9-ounce cans. Batch numbers: Lot # 85485RB and Lot # 87888RB6.
- Abbott liquid infant formulas are *not* impacted by this recall. ***(BEH)***

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Brocolli $1.79 LB.
Potato 79¢ LB.
Yellow Onions 79¢ LB.
Celery 89¢ LB.
Cauliflower $1.19 LB.
Lettuce Cello $1.29 LB.
Green Cabbage 79¢ LB.
Jumbo Carrots 89¢ LB.
Cantaloupe 99¢ LB.
Honeydew $1.09 LB.
Grapes $1.99 LB.
Orange 89¢ LB.
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Cass Beer
Saan Soju
Chum-Churum
Sam Da Soo Water 500 ML.
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Bear Flour
Sugar BROWN WHITE
Bagels $2.79
Pita Bread $2.29
Nong Shim Noodles 69¢ EA.
All Round Cakes 20% OFF
Maxwell House Coffee Mix 240g 20 sticks / 600g 50 sticks / 1.2 kg. 100 sticks
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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

What we spend on health care, and what it buys

Americans' average life expectancy increased by about six months between 2000 and 2005. That progress came at the cost of $630 billion. Is that a good deal?

A study published last month in the journal Health Affairs takes a sophisticated look at the relationship between increased health care spending and longer life.

Researchers examined changes in spending on seven common illnesses between 2000 and 2004, tracking the relationship between those changes and reductions in mortality from the illnesses.

Their study is part of a wave of new research designed to answer some surprisingly basic questions about medical care. Most Americans got a brief, distorted glimpse of that research during the health care reform debate last year—remember the talk about "death panels" and comparative effectiveness research? But basic questions about what we spend and what we get seem simple to ask but are difficult to answer.

How much do you value an extra year of life?

If you're looking for an absolute dollar figure, you're out of luck. The new study wasn't designed to dictate what we should spend. But other researchers have proposed figures ranging from about $50,000 to $7 million for working-age adults.

How did we do? The new study showed that for patients with sepsis, a systemic blood infection that's often fatal, each additional year of life cost between $100,000 and $194,400, depending on the patient's age,

Compared to those costs, heart attacks ($12,000 to about $98,000 a year), stroke ($26,000 to about $42,000 a year) and pneumonia ($10,600 to $15,700 a year) are relative bargains.

As those figures suggest, the new study "found that health care dollars produce inconsistent value," the authors wrote.

That squares with the results of a longer, more comprehensive study published two years ago in the New England Journal of Medicine.

It examined spending and increased life expectancy between 1960 and 2000. For the most part, the authors concluded, increased health care spending has been a bargain.

But it found "a sharp increase in the cost per additional year of life gained during the past two decades, primarily among the elderly." Those costs rose from $46,800 to $145,000 between the 1970s and 1990s. The same trend was observed in younger groups, though the absolute increase in costs was less pronounced.

Is there a point of diminishing returns, a juncture in which more spending per year of life gained is simply too much to justify?

Americans have avoided answering, or even contemplating, such a question.

How long we can continue to do so remains to be seen.

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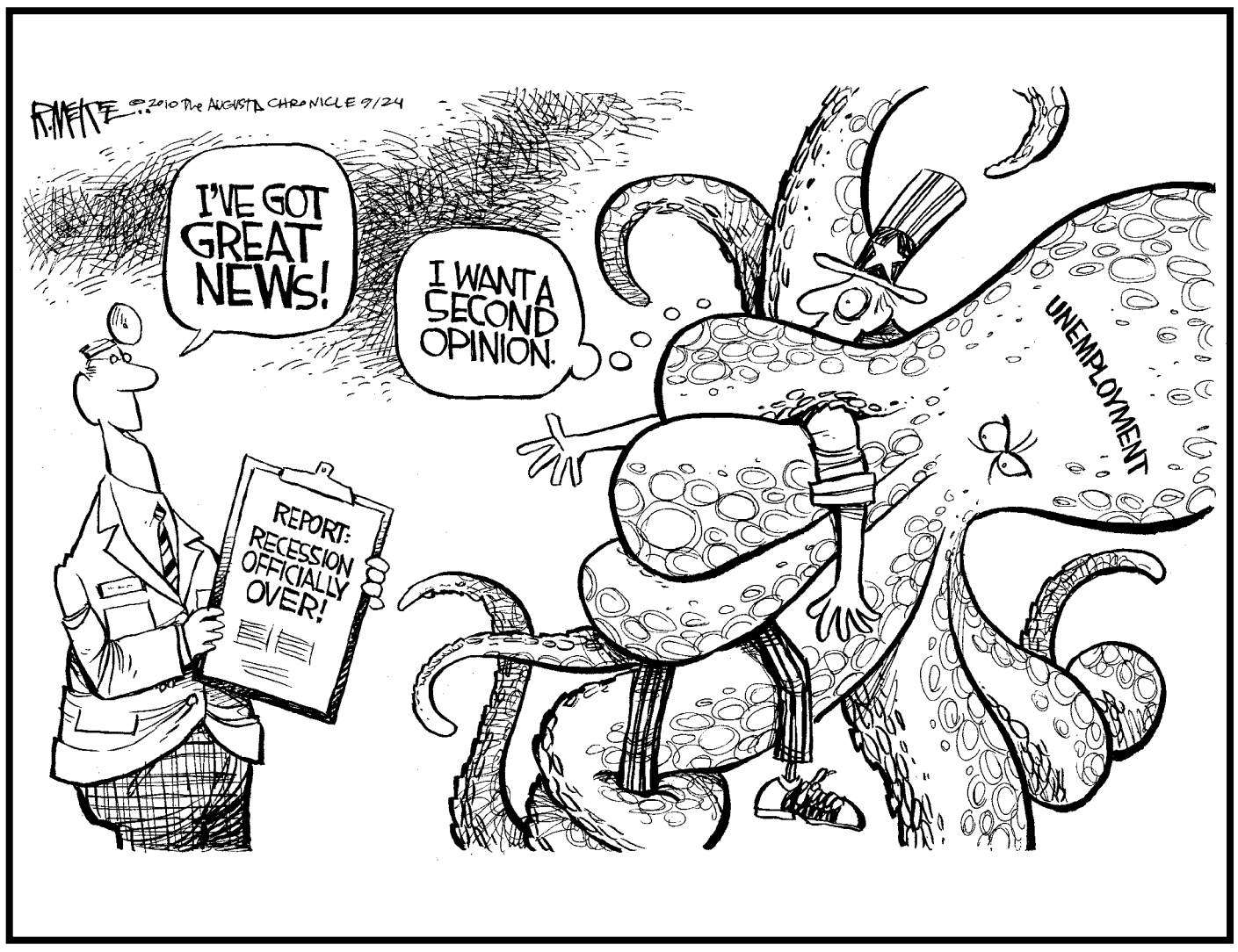
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I'VE GOT GREAT NEWS!
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REPORT: RECESSION OFFICIALLY OVER!
UNEMPLOYMENT

Fomenting hatred of Muslims hurts US

By TRUDY RUBIN
The Philadelphia Inquirer

Trudy Rubin is a columnist and editorial-board member for the Philadelphia Inquirer. *Readers may write to her at:* Philadelphia Inquirer, *P.O. Box 8263, Philadelphia, Pa. 19101, or by e-mail at trubin@phillynews.com.*

Last week, Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, accused the U.S. government of orchestrating the desecration of Qurans. Clearly facts are irrelevant to Iranian leaders as they seek to crank up anti-American outrage over a Quran burning that never occurred.

Facts are also irrelevant to Islamists in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Kashmir, who magnified the threat of an insignificant Florida pastor into an alleged U.S. crusade against Islam. In Third World countries full of poor, illiterate people with no access to solid information, it's easy for demagogues to get them to blame their troubles on the West.

What's harder to understand is why so many conservatives in this country seem determined to imitate the ayatollahs, using rumors and lies to whip up hatred of all Muslims. Not only does this fear-mongering play into the hands of radical Islamists, but it also tears at the fabric of American society as a whole.

A flurry of fact-twisting has characterized the whole debate over whether an Islamic center should be built two blocks from ground zero. The question of the center's location pales beside the way the issue has been misused to stir up hatred of American Muslims as a group.

Whether or not you agree fully with the views of the center's promoter, Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf, there is no question he's a proud American and a moderate Muslim. He was sent abroad as an emissary of interfaith dialogue by the Bush and Obama administrations. And he's now said he is open to all options on the mosque's location, hardly a radical approach.

Moreover, there was minimal controversy over the proposed center when the issue first became public. Example: Conservative media maven Laura Ingraham, guest-hosting "The O'Reilly Factor" on Fox News in December: "I can't find many people who really have a problem with it."

Once a couple of well-known conservative bloggers started hyping the issue, however, backed by the New York Post and Fox News, the mosque location became the excuse for an outright Islamaphobic campaign.

It's no accident that one of the bloggers, Pamela Geller, heads a group called: Stop Islamization of America. She once reprinted a post insinuating President Obama was the illegitimate son of Malcolm X. Geller's theme, that Muslims are scheming to take over the country, and the mosque is their symbol, has suddenly become a leitmotif of the political season. Even Ingraham has now disavowed the mosque.

Prime among the Islamaphobes is Newt Gingrich: He said on Fox last month that "the folks who want to build this mosque are really radical Islamists" whom he compared to Nazis seeking "supremacy" in the United States. For good measure, Gingrich charged Obama with "pandering to radical Islam." This dovetails with the anti-factual conservative campaign that has convinced 18 percent of Americans the president is a Muslim.

Another typical example of inflammatory GOP rhetoric came from State Rep. Rex Duncan of Oklahoma, who warned of a "war for the survival of America," because Muslim sharia law was threatening the Constitution. There are too many similar examples to quote here.

This scary political climate, in which Sarah Palin fuels the flames, has so spooked mainstream Republicans that they appear loath to tamp down the anti-Muslim rhetoric. Meantime, in the background, Rush Limbaugh keeps up the phobic beat and fundamentalist preachers such as Pat Robertson warn that Muslims are on the verge of "taking over."

I know we've had religious prejudice in this country before. But this is something different. In the age of talk radio and the blogosphere, when many Americans are fearful about economic and social changes, receptivity to demagoguery is increasing. When times are tough, it is tempting to seek a scapegoat. Gingrich recognizes that as readily as does Ayatollah Khamenei.

Yet it is vital that Americans distinguish between the real threat—radical Islamic groups and movements in many Muslim countries—and the hyped-up threat promoted here.

For one thing, the fearmongering helps radical Islamists. Gen. David Petraeus just warned that videos of Quran burning could endanger our troops overseas. What would be even more dangerous is if the Islamaphobes provoke a war of civilizations within the United States—the very outcome the jihadists seek.

We are a nation of immigrants, in which Muslims of Arab, South Asian, and African descent have flourished. This is why Muslims in America are so well-integrated, unlike in Europe, where many Muslim immigrants have failed to assimilate.

There will be exceptions, such as the Pakistani American who tried to put a bomb in Times Square. But preventing such disasters will be far easier if new Muslim Americans are made to feel welcome and encouraged to speak up about any suspicious activity in their communities.

Bottom line: I can't believe most Americans want to stoop to the level of ayatollahs and jihadists. Shame on Newt Gingrich; shame on those who play on Americans' anxieties. Let's call out the bloggers, pundits, and pols who are trying to drag us down.

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International Coastal Cleanup Day

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune*'s Opinion Section.*

They are called gyres, these five circular currents in our oceans that ancient navigators have had to discover and learn to navigate through to their advantage. They are like whirlpools spread out in a vast expanse. We wondered why the galleon ships had to head north from Manila toward Japan to catch currents and winds that help them get to the California coast into Acapulco, while they did not do the same when heading west.

In our time, they accumulate what is now being called *garbage patches*—debris from coastal runoffs that manage to get to the currents and get trapped so that now, a swath of floating garbage is a permanent fixture of our ocean gyres. There are accusations that unscrupulous waste managers in urban centers illegally dumped them there to cut cost to maximize profit. Not improbable. No matter. The trash is now afloat. There is one that is the focus of concerned citizens between Hawaii and the West Coast in the North Pacific Gyre north of the equator.

The Coastal Cleanup yesterday in the Marianas and today across the globe understands that whatever goes to the ocean originates form some human hand or human activity that dumps trash into the environment, from cigarette butts to Styrofoam.

At school, even with the trash bins at every other post on A-bldg. at SVES, we still had a lot of wrappers and trash on the hallway and the ground. Banana peeling and other organic matter thrown out to the ground naturally decompose, and this is probably tolerable, but the plastics take ages to disintegrate. Most regrettably, our children have grown with someone else picking up after them. Keeping surroundings neat and tidy is the janitor's job. That's why we pay them, neh!?! This habit is noticeable even among adults after picnics and BBQs in public places.

Self-reliance remains an acquired virtue. It is not an uncommon sight to have a parent or an adult dragging or carrying a child's bag to or from school while a child tags along, concentrating on the latest game toy. Some 6th graders in my class even had cell phones with features I would not know how to operate. Our lives are head trips in the mind abetted by gadgets, our bodies inconveniently dragged along, draped in artifices and shrouded in cosmetics. The symbiosis between body and nature is feeble.

Nannies are cheap in the CNMI and every household used to have someone pick up after a child's belongings as they get dumped on the floor after school. In a culture where social status is of considerable importance, a housemaid *(muchacha,* remember?) is a fashionable ward to tow for show. Ah, and the living is easy!

I ran into marine biologist John Furey and colleague Alan from MHS while coming out of the water south of Hopwood after sundown not too long ago, on their way to view marine life around a sunken barge. I was carrying a trash pickup stick. One of the kids in the water thought I was using it to catch fish. I said, "No, I pick up trash." The child smiled and said, "You pick up trash in the lagoon?" Either he thought I was looney, or I was doing something gainfully rewarding.

Neither, though John thought the exchange noteworthy given the critical state of marine life in the lagoon. In fact, the trash pickup stick did not last long. Mechanically designed with a spring, the salt water rusted it so fast that it became non-functional in a hurry. I was also using it to pick up shells, the ones that had been taken over by hermit crabs and their cousins. I take them home and clean out the calcified sand and see if they can be restored to their original condition. I give them away as souvenir to island guests and friends, or paper weights for someone's desk.

As a history teacher, I noticed how the calcified sand around the shells shaped them quite nicely as one scrub and scrape the hard calcium, in my case, with a steel brush, until I discovered Clorox (sodium hydrochloride) that dissolves the calcium faster. I was, however, horrified to see the shell's condition *sans* the covering, with all the telltale attritions that scavengers have inflicted on them. Which tells us again that there is never a pristine condition, social history-wise or shell-wise. There is no Golden Age to return to! Peeling the onion in personal history leaves one without core! Accretions to life at every moment become an integral part of selfhood. We can either deny them, or accept them and celebrate their being as they are. But let's not wax philosophical here.

I live such an exciting life that when asked what I do on Friday nights, my response has now become "a date with Shelley." That's about two bins of seashells in my bathroom that I soak and chip the grime away, or brush them until the shape with the calcium is aesthetic enough to retain.

For now, join the Ocean Conservancy volunteers around the world—not just today but when walking the shore—do coastal cleanup if only for the aesthetic of the thing. Obviously, like everything else, we have a deeper job to do with our social behavior and our non-sustainable relationship to our natural capital base. More so for a fragile island economy like the CNMI, that has spawned a consumer market without a productive base and is dependent on factory products manufactured elsewhere. While at the beach, get Mobil, pick up a Shell, if you know what I mean?

You don't?

Letters to the Editor

Where art thou, alternative energy incentive?

Juan Sablan is correct. The only solution to CUC's problems is privatization. That is, it badly needs restructuring and reorganizing. The major cause of business failures, individual and family hardships is the cost of utilities.

Even the long awaited regulation that will or may encourage individual household investments in solar or any other alternative energy was never ever completed. Almost all the 50 states have energy policies that include incentives for alternative energy investments. All our insular neighbors have investment policies on alternative energy, we don't.

California for example presently implements the "bi-directional" power meter, which provide power both ways. If you invest in alternative energy, be it solar or wind, any energy produced by your system will first be consumed by you. However, if you produce more than what you need or you happen to be away from home, your system will continue producing energy that will go into the main grid for your neighbors to use, turning your meter in the opposite direction and registering as a credit from the operator of the main grid, thus, the name "bi-directional meter." This provides incentive in California and many are taking advantage of the program. If your system is large enough, you may never have to pay for power; instead, you will be contributing power to the grid.

What happened to the alternative energy regulation? Are we sleeping? We should encourage investment in alternative energy. The modern world is really passing us by. All insular areas have alternative energy policies. Almost the entire 50 states have their policies that includes incentives. We are obviously in a very deep sleep, otherwise we should be implementing sound energy policies by now. Juan Sablan is right. We should reorganize and privatize CUC. We cannot expect change if we do not change.

Frank M. Atalig
Sinapalo 1, Rota

Privatize CUC now

I read an article in your newspaper regarding CUC. The headline reads "Workforce, equipment are the solutions to water woes." It also mentioned about U.S. immigration. None of the above will solve CUC's problems. The only way out is to privatize the agency. Hire local people or U.S. citizens to do the job. CUC is a broad agency and our government is not capable in running it. The government tried its best to run the agency after William Millard failed to purchased it. After those years the agency experienced all sorts of problems. I think it is about time to welcome any private company. Privatizing CUC now is the best time. It is like building a new factory. It will bring more jobs and goods and services will be delivered to our people. A real American tradition!

Thomas Aquino Cabrera Camacho
Chalan Piao, Saipan

P.S. In response to Teddy Guiao's letter requesting to be an American citizen, the Filipinos were given a chance by the Americans to become one of their own. They chose to be an independent country. Aside from the above, the Americans were forced out from Subic Bay and Clark Air Force Base. If I'm not mistaken, the Filipinos made that decision. If you need a passport, please apply for one at the U.S. passport office located in Dan Dan.

Just a dream

On Sept. 21, 2010, Republicans in Congress moved to block the so-called Dream Act of 2010. Democrats vowed to reintroduce the Dream Act but odds of the measure becoming law this year are slim to non-existent. I've publicly said it before and I will continue to advocate that "amnesty," outright citizenship, or permanent residency will not materialize on U.S. soil, including the CNMI.

Obviously, Interior undersecretary Tony Babauta's recommendations supporting such a move became a reality to members of Congress, that it is in fact nothing but a dream. Remember folks, I was a member on the panel testifying on behalf of the CNMI against foreigners demanding outright citizenship or permanent residency. Our homeland is not a stepping stone and I fully supported strengthening our immigration control and protecting our nation's borders. The original intent of H.R. 3079, introduced by U.S. congressional members during the first historic field hearing held in the CNMI in 2007, was about national security and border control. Guess who chaired the hearing? Delegate Donna Christensen of the U.S. Virgin Islands. Sitting closely next to her was Tony Babauta, along with Delegate Madeleine Bordallo of Guam.

The point is, these three individuals share a common goal and they have no respect for the people of the CNMI for their priorities is outright citizenship or permanent residency to foreigners on U.S. soil.

Gregorio Cruz
Papago, Saipan

Some suggestions to balance the budget

The bottom line on the whole situation facing the impending shutdown of government operations in the CNMI is the culmination of a factional elite in government that is all to blame. The people of these islands should not be the sacrificial lamb to deserve the receiving ends of the failure of the Senate and House of Representatives. The Legislature is mandated by the Constitution to "cut costs" to balance the budget. The administration likewise should cut costs, plain and simple. Somehow the Legislature is doing both, and that is not right.

Compromise in negotiation at this stage should draw positions to:

- 12 hours of furlough.
- Half of holiday pays, i.e., if the current number of paid holidays is 14 days, then only seven should be paid and the rest be declared non-paid holidays.
- Resolve the regressive nature of the salary cut in that it should start from the top, decreasing to the lowest salary. No salary cut for employees earning less than $18,000 per year. The OPM should figure out the percentage in line with the target budget for personnel. This should be a straightforward and linear computation. If you start with 25 percent from the top in descending order, the budget will be balanced. All we need is to make the proper calculation.

We all must realize that chronic deficit spells out corrupt leadership, political decadence, and economic ruin. All in position of leadership at this point are to blame for the mess. Do something, anything, to avoid the looming disaster after Oct. 1, 2010. The people of the CNMI expects all its elected leaders to soften the blow of the present economic situation to the people that are most impacted: the poor and low income level of this society. The world does not end today, life continues to move on. So, elected leaders in the Senate and House, make it happen and do the right thing.

Francisco R. Agulto
Chalan Kanoa, Saipan

Time to pay up

The present economic situation and government debacle in the CNMI is a direct result of voter complacency. Brings to mind an age old Aesop fable, *The Ant and the Grasshopper*, which provides a moral lesson about hard work and preparation or, as a work ethic-oriented country boy raised in Montana, we used to say, "If you're going dance to the music, sooner or later you'll have to pay the fiddler." Sorry about that, CNMI voters, but now is the time to pay up and wake up.

Owen Rumley
via email

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

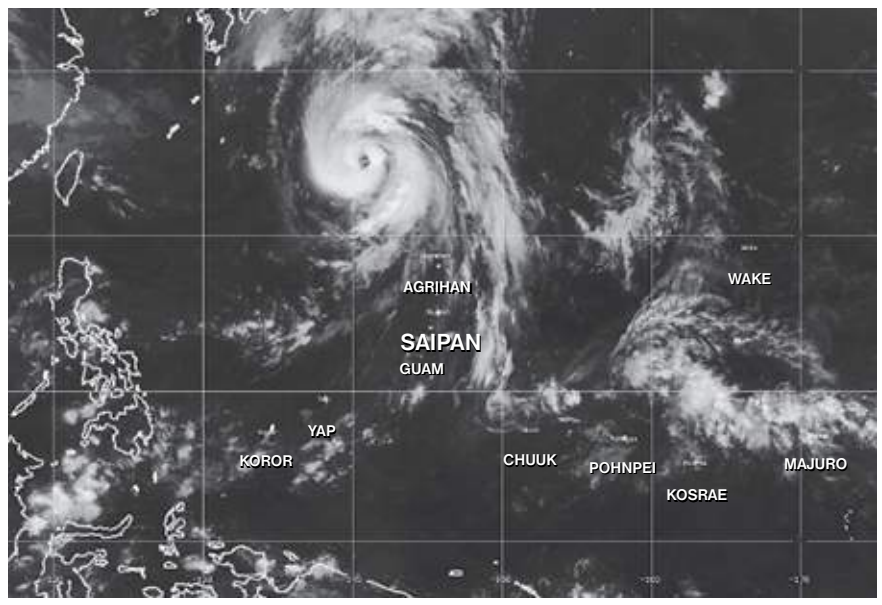
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundertorms	▲86	▼78
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼78
Yap	Partly Sunny	▲86	▼76
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲83	▼77
Pohnpei	Showers	▲88	▼74
Kosrae	Rain	▲88	▼76
Majuro	Partly Sunny	▲87	▼76

Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲63	▼55
Beijing	Sunny	▲76	▼52
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲87	▼70
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲84	▼74
London	Partly Cloudy	▲58	▼50
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲89	▼62
Manila	Thundershowers	▲90	▼77
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲66	▼47
Miami	Thundershowers	▲88	▼79
New York	Sunny	▲82	▼56
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲81	▼63
Paris	Showers	▲60	▼51
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲75	▼65
Rome	Showers	▲78	▼61
Salem	Sunny	▲81	▼55
San Francisco	Sunny	▲80	▼61
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲73	▼61
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	▲77	▼63
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲89	▼60

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2010
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Tropical Storm Malakas (13W) is centered northwest of Agrihan near 23N141E moving north at 14 mph with maximum sustained winds of 70mph. Numerous showers and scattered thunderstorms are found in an area bounded by a line from 25N139E to 25N145E to 19N148E to 15N139E back to 25N139E. Scattered showers are found west of the Marianas within 80 miles of a line from 13N134E to 14N140E. For further information on Tropical Storm Malakas (13W), refer to JTWC bulletins under WMO header WTPN32 PGTW and National Weather Service public advisories under WMO header WTPQ32 PGUM. Trade-wind convergence is generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms around Pohnpei, Kosrae and Majuro within 170 miles of a line from 10N156E to 8N168E to 8N180.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

2:39 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
8:49 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
2:53 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.7 Feet
8:24 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:06 AM	6:11 PM
Sunday	6:06 AM	6:10 PM
Monday	6:06 AM	6:10 PM
Tuesday	6:06 AM	6:09 PM
Wednesday	6:07 AM	6:09 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	7:09 PM	7:15 AM
Sunday	7:49 PM	8:05 AM
Monday	8:34 PM	8:56 AM
Tuesday	9:22 PM	9:50 AM
Wednesday	10:15 PM	10:45 AM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2010

DEPARTURES

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM

C09597	5:00am	5:30am	1, 5

SAIPAN-GUAM

C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	Daily
C09605	6:35pm	7:25pm	Daily
C09599	9:35pm	10:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:00am	8:35am	Daily
DL297	3:20pm	5:55pm	Daily
DL289	4:35pm	7:10pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NAGOYA

DL640	7:40am	10:20am	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	Daily via KIX
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN
OZ604/701	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09317/891	4:25am	9:45am	6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:00am	10:10pm	Daily via NRT
DL640/629	7:40am	10:35pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 via NGO
C09603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM
C09603/893	3:05pm	9:10pm	3, 5 via GUM-Palau
C09599/PR111	9:35pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/909	3:05pm	9:30pm	1, 5 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM-ROTA (ROP)

C09598	6:30pm	7:00pm	4, 7

GUAM-SAIPAN

C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
C09600	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
C09606	8:10pm	9:00pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL290	9:45am	2:20pm	Daily
DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:40pm	1:10am+1	Daily

NAGOYA-SAIPAN

DL641	9:10pm	1:40am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	Daily via KIX
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ704/605	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
DL630/641	6:30am	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 via NGO
DL172/288	7:40am	1:10am+1	Daily via NRT
C0890/9606	10:55am	9:00pm	6 via GUM
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/C09596	10:00pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
C0892/9596	10:10pm	7:50am+1	3,5 via GUM-Palau
C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/605	12:30am	2:30pm	2 ,4 ,6, 7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0910/9596	10:35pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

SCHEDULE OF RELIGIOUS SERVICES

CATHOLIC

Mt. Carmel Cathedral
Sunday Mass: 6am Chamorro, 9am English, 11am Filipino and 6pm English
Monday-Saturday: 6am Chamorro
Wednesday: 6pm Chamorro
Parish office hours:
Monday-Saturday
8am-12pm, 12-1pm, 1-5pm

Korean Center
Sunday: 10:30am
Wednesday: 10am
Thursday-Friday: 8pm
Saturday: 3pm and 7:30pm

Kristo Rai Parish
Sunday- Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6am and 6pm (PH Novena 5:45pm)
Friday: 5:30pm praying of Divine Mercy Chaplet; 6pm devotional mass in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.
Saturday: 6am and 6pm (anticipated)
Sunday Mass: 6am, 8am and 9:30am 6pm Tagalog mass
Parish office hours: (Fr. Celso G. Magbanua) Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday 8-11:30am/ 3-5:30pm, Wednesday and Friday 3-5pm.
Telephone no. 285-0273

Santa Soledad Mission Parish
Monday: 6pm
Tuesday: 6pm
Wednesday: 6pm
Friday: 6pm
Saturday: 6pm (Youth mass/ anticipated Sunday mass)
Sunday: 7am and 9am (Children's mass)
Parish office hours: Wednesday and Friday: 8-10am,
Saturday: 4-6pm
Telephone no. 256-4568

Saint Jude Parish
Monday- Friday: 6pm
Saturday: 7am
Sunday: 6am, 8am, 10am
Parish office hours: Monday-Friday 9:30-11:30am, 3:30-5pm
Office is close every Thursday and Saturday
Telephone no. 288-0007

San Antonio Parish
Monday-Friday 6pm
Saturday: 6pm
Sunday: 7am, 9am (Blessing of children)
Parish office hours: Tuesday-Saturday: 8-11:30am, 2-4:45pm
Close on Sunday and Monday

San Francisco de Borja-Rota
Sunday: 6am Chamorro, 8am English
Monday and Tuesday:6am Chamorro
Wednesday:6pm English
Thursday: 6am Chamorro
Friday: 6am English
Saturday: 6am Chamorro, 6pm Tagalog
Sunday: anticipated mass

San Isidro-Rota
Sunday: 5am, 8am, 10am
Monday-Friday: 7pm
Saturday: 5am and 7pm

San Jose (Oleai) Parish
Monday- Saturday: 6am daily mass
Monday- Sunday: 3pm Divine Mercy Chaplet
Wednesday: 6pm, mass, exposition of the blessed sacrament
Saturday: 6pm, anticipated Sunday mass
Sunday: 7:30-9am English, 6pm Tagalog mass
Office hours: Monday-Wednesday: 9am-12pm, 2-5pm
Thursday: day off
Friday- Saturday: 8am-12pm, 2-5pm
Telephone no. 234-6991

San Roque Parish
Sunday: 7:30am Chamorro, 9am English
Monday: 6pm English
Tuesday: 6pm English
Wednesday: 6pm English- novena mass to our Lady of San Roque oil
Thursday: 6pm English
Friday: 6pm English- Devotion to the sacred heart of Jesus (First Fridays)
Saturday: 6am English- Our Lady's Saturday mass for the intentions of the Men and Women in military service, 6pm English- anticipated mass
Parish office hours: daily except Thursday and Sundays: 4:30-6pm
Telephone no. 322-2404, Fr. Bong's cell: 285-912, Diocesan Finance office: 234-3000 ext.143

San Vicente Parish
Monday-Friday: 6pm,
Saturday: 6pm (First Saturday of every month)
Sunday: 6am anticipated mass, 6pm (Neo Catechumenal community mass), 8pm
Sunday: 6am, 9am, 6pm
Parish office hours: daily 9-11am
Telephone no. 235-8208 or 287-0131

Santa Remedios
Sunday: 8am
Monday: 6pm (1st Mondays cemetery masses at 5:30pm)
Tuesday- Friday: 6pm
Saturday: 6pm-anticipated Sunday mass 8-10pm
Parish office hours: Monday- Friday: 8:30am-12pm

PROTESTANT

Born Again Christian
(Upper Room Int'l Ministries), Saipan
Wednesday Prayer and Healing Night: 8-10:30pm
Saturday Tagalog Service: 8-10:30pm
Sunday English Service: 9:30-11am
Sunday School for Children: 10-11am
Sunday Filipino Service: 7-9pm

Calvary Baptist Church, Saipan
Sunday School: 9am
Sunday Morning Worship: 10am
Sunday Evening Worship: 6pm
Wednesday Prayer Service: 7pm
Telephone no. 234-6026/27

Chinese Christian Church of Saipan
Worship Services:
Sunday: Chinese and Filipino 9am, English 6pm
Bible Study: Wednesday and Saturday 8pm
Telephone no. 235-8540

Cornerstone Christian Church, Saipan
Morning Service, Sunday, 10:00 am
Evening Service, Sunday, 6:00 pm
Children Sunday School, 10:00am/ 6:00 pm
Prayer Meeting, Wednesday, 7-9 pm
Youth Night of Worship, Friday, 6:30 pm
As Perdido Road
Chalan Piao, Saipan MP 96950
Tel. No. (670) 235-8590
Email: cornerstone@cfemcares.org

Episcopal/Anglican Church on Saipan
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Worship Service Sunday: Holy Communion 9:00am
Place: Vicarage, Chalan Laulau,
Call 235-0545 for directions

Grace Christian Assembly, Saipan
Sunday Worship Service: 9-11am
Sunday school/ Children's church 9am (nursery available during Sunday service)
GBI Classes: 4-6pm
Prayer Meeting: 6am Tuesday GCA Kagman, Wednesday Navy Hill, Thursday San Antonio
Home Cell Bible Study: 7pm (Through out the week)
Telephone no. 322-5680

Iglesia Ni Cristo, Saipan
Wednesday: 7:45pm (English)
Thursday: 5:30am (English); 7:45 pm (Tagalog)
Saturday: 7:45pm (Tagalog)
Sunday: 6:45am (English)
Children Worship Service: Sunday, 9am (English)

Immanuel United Methodist Church
Chalan Kanoa Drive, Chalan Kanoa (east of Town Center and Beach Road, Near Mt. Carmel Cathedral)
Worship Service: 9:00am
Children's Sunday School: 9:00am
Choir Practice: 8:00am
Singspiration: 8:30am
Prayer, Care & Share: Wednesday 7:00pm
Pastor: Millie Carroll 322-6158

Immanuel Methodist Church
(Filipino Congregation)
Sunday: 7:00am-Choir Rehearsal
8:00am-Church Service (Tagalog)
9:15am-Sunday School
Wednesday: 6:30pm, home group
8:00pm-Prayer Meeting
Thursday: 7:30pm-Choir Practice (Church)
Saturday: 8:00pm-Choir Practice (Parsonage)
(Korean Congregation)
Sunday worship: 9am, 10:30, 1pm
Wednesday evening service: 8pm
Daily morning prayer: 5am

Jesus is Lord Church, Saipan
Sunday English Service: 7:30-9am,
Sunday Tagalog Service: 9-11am and 6-8pm,
Wednesday: 7:30-9pm

Korean Presbyterian Church, Saipan
Sunday School: 9:20am
Sunday Adult: 11am
Sunday Evening: 7:30pm
Wednesday: 8pm

Life in the Son Christian Fellowship, Saipan
Sunday Worship Service: 10am-12noon
Tuesday: Leadership Institute 7pm-10pm
Wednesday: Corporate prayer 7pm-8pm
Last Friday of the month-prayer: 7pm-11pm
Friday: Youth on Fire: 7pm-9pm
Tel. No. 235-LIFE (5433)

Marianas Baptist Church, Saipan
English Worship Service: 9-10:30am
Evening Worship Service: 6-7pm
Children Sunday School: 9-10:30am
Tagalog Sunday School: 11am-12pm
English Sunday School: 11am-12pm
Korean Worship Service: 11am-12pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting:
English, 7pm-8pm
Korean: 8:30pm-9:30pm

Missions Connection Ministry
Every Sunday Celebrations:
10am (English), 6pm (Tagalog)
Wednesday Bible Study: 7pm
Youth Impact Friday: 7pm
Saturday Prayer Meeting: 7pm

Northern Marianas Christian Church
Sunday Worship Service 10am Fina Sisu Housing FS#1 (Child care will be provided)
Friday Services @ 7pm Fina Sisu FS#1 for more info pls. contact Ryan 484-2620

Marianas Bible Fellowship Center
Sunday School: 9-9:30am
Divine Worship: 9:30-11am
Evening Service: 7pm-8:30pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting: 8pm-9pm

Pentecostal Missionary Church of Christ (4th Watch)
Sunday worship 8:30am
Sunday evening 7:00pm
Prayer meeting, every Wednesday 7:30pm
San Jose village, after San Jose Hotel
Telephone: 789-7566

Saipan Christian Church
Sunday: 7:30am-10am
Sunday: 6:30 pm -9pm
Monday: 8 pm -10pm (Prayer Meeting)
Thursday: 8pm-10pm (Cell Groups)

Saipan Church of Christ
Sunday Bible Class: 9am
Sunday Worship: 10am
Sunday Worship English: 10-11am
Sunday Worship Tagalog: 6-7pm
Thursday Bible Study: 7pm

Saipan Community Church
(Sunday Services)
Palau Service: 7:30am-9am
English Service: 10am-11:30am
Chuukese Service: 1pm-2:30pm
Filipino Service: 5:00pm-7:00pm

Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Saipan
(Saturday Church Services)
Sabbath School Program: 9-10am
Lesson Study: 10-10:40am
Divine Service: 11-12pm
Visitation: 3-4pm
Adventist Youth Program: 4:30-5:30pm
Sundown Worship: 6-7pm

First Baptist Church
(Formerly Saipan Baptist Church)
Afetna St., San Antonio
Sunday
9am Sunday school
10am Regular worship
6pm worship
Wednesday
7pm worship
Everyone is warmly welcome to attend our worship services. Transportation is readily available to anyone who needs a ride to our church.

Thy Word Ministries Saipan
Faith Center
Phone 234-0209
New Christian Charismatic Church Service
located in Chalan Paio, Beach Road in the Sablan building on the 2nd floor above Subway Sandwiches.
Senior Pastors: George & Gail Kamakahi
Asst. Pastors: Eric & Penny Sakaguchi

Service Times
Sunday 10:00am Worship Service
Sunday 7pm Discipleship Classes
Tuesday 10:00am Bible Studies
Tuesday 6:00pm Intercessory Prayer
Tuesday 7:00pm Music Practice
Wednesday 7:00pm Mid-Week Service
Saturday 10:00am Evangelism

Upper Room International Ministries
Sunday 5:30am-6:30am Morning prayer
7am-9am English service
7am-9am Sunday school
10am-12noon English service, Koblerville
Wednesday 7pm-9pm Prayer meeting
Saturday 7pm-9pm Tagalog service
Venue: Jason Presbyterian Church Gualo Rai, Saipan

Victory Chapel Christian
Fellowship Church
Sunday School: 9:30am
Sunday AM Worship:10:30am
Sunday PM Worship:7:00am
Wed Worship: 7:30pm
Prayer 45 min. Prior to Service Times
Morning Prayer: 6-8am M-S

Editor's Note: Information subject to change without prior notice. All information provided by the respective churches. If you want your church or religious activities included or to report changes and errors, call *Saipan Tribune* at 235-6397 or 235-2440 or email editor@saipantribune.com.

Business

Port gets $50M transferred for modernization program

The Port Authority of Guam now has $50 million in the bank to begin the agency's much-anticipated modernization program.

Gov. Felix P. Camacho and port officials were notified early this morning that the Department of Defense had deposited $50 million into the Port of Guam Improvement Enterprise Fund which will be administered by the U.S. Maritime Administration.

"This is great news for the port and the people of Guam as we continue to move forward with our aggressive plans to transform the Port Authority of Guam into a world-class facility," said Camacho.

Port Modernization Program, as authorized by the Guam Legislature, spans a 30-year planning horizon and is valued at a little more than $260 million. Phase I-A and Phase I-B of the program should be accomplished over the next 5 years and are focused on critical maintenance and repair of waterfront facilities and the dredging and uplands expansion needed to handle near-term cargo demands of the military buildup.

Phase II of the program will occur 30 years into the future and focuses on the expansion needed to address the cargo demands of the long-term organic growth of Guam and our neighboring islands.

Phase I-A will cost $104.2 million and involves the $50 million appropriation from the military which was deposited this morning combined with $54.5 million provided by the port after it acquires loans from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Phase I-A includes reconfiguration and expansion of the cargo terminals, creation of a new gate complex, reconfiguration and expansion of selected buildings, upgraded utilities and security features, and state-of-the-art terminal and gate operating systems.

Although funding for the Phase I-B project has yet to be identified, it will include wharf repairs, dredging, cranes, and additional security equipment.

The $50-million deposited yesterday was the result of the FY 2010 Supplemental Appropriations Act which provided the Department of Defense the authorization to transfer up to a maximum of $50 Million from the FY 2010 Operations and Maintenance Fund to the Port of Guam Improvement Enterprise Fund. Receipt of matching grant funds or similar funds was a condition that would allow the USDA to approve the $50 million in loans since the Port's borrowing capacity was capped at $54.5 million.

"We have already finished our preliminary design work and have made significant progress on our Modernization Program," Port general manager Rick Agustin said. "We just concluded a week of Transition Meetings at the Sheraton with MARAD and their Program Management Team, EA Engineering, Science and Technology, along with representatives of USDA and JGPO. We held these Transition Meetings this week in anticipation of the $50 Million. We are preparing now to transfer the implementation of the construction to MARAD and EA Engineering and they will finalize the design and oversee construction of the Modernization Program."

The Port Authority of Guam has tentatively scheduled a kick-off ceremony for the Construction Phase of the Modernization Program to occur late next month. ***(PR)***

BoG VP Rengiil graduates from banking school

HAGATNA, Guam—Bank of Guam vice president and Corporate Banking Group manager Kalistus Rengiil recently graduated from the Pacific Coast Banking School.

Rengiil

For over 70 years, the prestigious Pacific Coast Banking School has partnered with the University of Washington Graduate School of Business to teach the business of banking to over 10,000 bankers and members of the financial services community.

A three-year, masters-level extension program for senior officers in the banking industry, graduates attend a two-week resident session each August on the University of Washington Seattle campus and complete six rigorous intersession assignments, including an original management thesis.

Rengiil joined the bank in 1998 after graduating from the University of Hawaii at Hilo with a Business Administration degree. He has been with the Corporate Banking Group since 1998, and was recognized in 2003 as the Bank's Loan Officer of the Year and in 2004 as the Bank's Employee of the Year. Rengiil also holds a Professional Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Guam. ***(BoG)***

Nation

1st woman in 5 years executed in US amid outcry

JARRATT, Va. (AP)—The first woman executed in the United States in five years was put to death in Virginia on Thursday for arranging the killings of her husband and a stepson over a $250,000 insurance payment. Teresa Lewis, 41, died by injection at 9:13 p.m. Thursday, authorities said. She became the first woman executed in Virginia in nearly a century. Supporters and relatives of the victims watched her execution at Greensville Correctional Center in Jarratt.

Lewis enticed two men through sex, cash and a promised cut in an insurance policy to shoot her husband, Julian Clifton Lewis Jr., and his son, Charles, as they slept in October 2002. Both triggermen were sentenced to life in prison and one committed suicide in 2006.

Lewis appeared fearful, her jaw clenched, as she was escorted into the death chamber. She glanced tensely around at 14 assembled corrections officials before being bound to a gurney with heavy leather straps.

Moments before her execution, Lewis asked if her husband's daughter was near.

Kathy Clifton, Lewis' stepdaughter, was in an adjacent witness room blocked from the inmate's view by a two-way mirror.

"I want Kathy to know that I love her and I'm very sorry," Lewis said.

Then, as the drugs flowed into her body, her feet bobbed but she otherwise remained motionless. A guard lightly tapped her on the shoulder reassuringly as she slipped into death.

More than 7,300 appeals to stop the execution—the first of a woman in Virginia since 1912—had been made to the governor in a state second only to Texas in the number of people it executes.

Texas held the most recent U.S. execution of a woman in 2005. Out of more than 1,200 people put to death since the U.S. Supreme Court reinstated capital punishment in 1976, only 11 have been women.

The 41-year-old woman, who defense attorneys said was borderline mentally disabled, had inspired other inmates by singing Christian hymns in prison. Her fate also had drawn appeals from the European Union, an indignant rebuke from Iran and the disgust of thousands of people.

The Lewis execution stirred an unusual amount of attention because of her gender, claims she lacked the intelligence to mastermind the killings and the post-conviction emergence of defense evidence that one of the triggermen manipulated her.

AP

Death penalty protestors hold signs as they protest the execution of Teresa Lewis outside the Greensville Correctional Center in Jarratt, Va., Thursday, Sept. 23, 2010. Teresa Lewis was executed and pronounced dead at 9:13 p.m.

Lewis' supporters also said she was a changed woman. They pointed to testimonials from former prison chaplains and inmates that Lewis comforted and inspired other inmates with her faith and the hymns and country gospel tunes she sang at the Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women where she was long held.

Hours before her execution, Lewis met with family, her spiritual adviser and supporters at the Greensville Correctional Center.

Her spiritual adviser, the Rev. Julie Perry, stood sobbing as she later witnessed the execution, clutching a religious book.

Throughout her life, a faith in God had been a seeming constant for Lewis—whether it was the prayer with her husband or her ministry behind bars.

But by her own admission, Lewis' life has been marked by outrageous bouts of sex and betrayal even as she hewed to the trappings of Christianity.

"I was doing drugs, stealing, lying and having several affairs during my marriages," Lewis wrote in a statement that was read at a prison religious service in August. "I went to church every Sunday, Friday and revivals but guess what? I didn't open my Bible at home, only when I was at church."

Her father said she ran off to get married, then later abandoned her children and ran off with her sister's husband. Then she had an affair with her sister's fiance while at the same time having an affair with another man.

Bugs in baby formula? Parents worried about recall

By LINDSEY TANNER and ED WHITE
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITERS

Worried parents have bombarded the maker of Similac with phone calls and peppered Facebook and Twitter pages over fears about insects in the top-selling baby formula after millions of cans were recalled.

But the company said Thursday it's unlikely any of the formula already sold is tainted, and doctors offered more reassurance: Even if babies drink bug-tainted formula, the chance for serious harm is slim.

"There's no reason for parents to panic," said Dr. Joseph Gigante, an associate professor of pediatrics at Vanderbilt Children's Hospital in Nashville, Tenn. Symptoms might include a mild upset stomach, but he says that should last only a few days.

Still, parents like Stephanie Roseman of Farmington Hills, Mich., are upset. Her 3-month-old son seemed like he had a stomach ache this week after drinking formula from one of Abbott's recalled lots. So Roseman's switching to a rival formula.

"He was definitely fussy, and he's not a fussy kid at all," said Roseman, 33. "I wish they were a little more careful screening what's going into the formula."

North Chicago, Ill.-based Abbott voluntarily recalled 5 million cans and plastic containers of Similac powdered formula only as a precaution after small common beetles were found at its Sturgis, Mich., manufacturing plant, said company spokeswoman Kelly Morrison.

The bugs are a common warehouse beetle that were found near a production line late last week. Abbott immediately stopped production and then tested containers of formula from that line. Morrison said "99.8 percent of product was not contaminated."

"Chances are really, really remote" that beetle parts made it into formula that was sold to consumers, but the products were recalled just in case they might contain beetle parts or larvae, Morrison told The Associated Press.

Similac is the top-selling infant formula in the United States. Abbott's nutritional products, including adult brands like Ensure, had worldwide sales of $5.3 billion last year.

Morrison said Abbott expects to lose $100 million in connection with the recall.

Recalled products include certain lots of Similac Advance LCP with iron powder, Go and Grow milk powder and Isomil Advance Powder. Morrison stressed that liquid formula is not involved.

Ga. pastor spent a generation building megachurch

ATLANTA (AP)—Bishop Eddie Long built his congregation into a megachurch empire, telling his followers God wanted them to be wealthy and delivering fiery sermons with a secular swagger. But that empire hangs in the balance amid accusations he had sexual relationships with three young men.

On Sunday mornings, Long is usually draped in regal robes and dripping with diamonds and platinum—the kind of material rewards he often says are in God's plan for those listening. He hangs with celebrities like rapper T.I. and donates money to charities and candidates. Even the county sheriff is among his followers.

Long spent more than 20 years building all that up. And his 25,000 followers aren't about to let it all come tumbling down after the three men filed lawsuits claiming the bishop abused his spiritual authority.

"I've always thought he was a very powerful man of God," said Anshay Tull, a 27-year-old attendee of New Birth. "I'm just praying, trying to stay hopeful that it's not true. If it is true, he has to take that up with God. But that can't take away from the Word that he gives. I think he's very gifted."

Gates says he has no doubts about war strategy

WASHINGTON (AP)—Defense Secretary Robert Gates said Thursday that the Obama administration's redrawn Afghanistan war strategy is sound, answering claims in a new book that the plan was a politically driven hodgepodge.

Gates

Once President Barack Obama announced the plan his entire administration and the military swung behind it, Gates said during a Pentagon news conference. The Pentagon chief also predicted no big shifts as the war moves into its 10th year.

Obama overrode some close advisers last December after months of debate, when he added about 30,000 forces and shifted battlefield priorities. Neither did he satisfy his generals. The resulting divisions and bureaucratic backbiting are laid out in Washington Post writer Bob Woodward's book "Obama's Wars."

Gates shrugged off those divisions.

"Conflict sells," Gates said.

The Obama administration sought a new counterinsurgency strategy to blunt the momentum of the resurgent Taliban. The homegrown Afghan insurgency was defeated in the 2001 invasion but allowed to regroup during several years of what Obama and his advisers call inattention by the Bush administration.

ACROSS THE NATION

'Mom's gone crazy:' 4 killed in Seattle shooting

SEATTLE (AP)—A woman fatally shot three people and herself at a Seattle home Thursday, injuring another woman who fled into the front yard and told officers: "My mom has gone crazy," police said. Officers responded to a report of gunshots at about 1:30 p.m. and could still hear shots being fired from the house when they arrived, police spokesman Sean Whitcomb said. A man in his 50s ran into the house. Two more shots were fired and he ran back out, telling officers his wife had shot herself. When police were able to go inside, they found the four dead, including a woman in her 50s they believe was the shooter, Whitcomb said. He said police don't believe anyone else was involved.

Nicaraguan diplomatic official found dead in NYC

NEW YORK (AP)—A Nicaraguan diplomat was found dead Thursday, his stomach stabbed and his throat slashed, in his blood-spattered apartment, hours before he was to attend the U.N. General Assembly's annual meeting, officials said. Cesar Mercado, who had worked at the Nicaraguan consulate as acting consul general, was found at 10:35 a.m. in his apartment in the Bronx by the driver who went to pick him up to attend the meeting, police said. He was last seen alive the day before. Police said the driver knocked on the door, which was unlocked, opened it, saw Mercado's body lying just inside the studio and called 911.

Threatened Mexican journalist receives asylum

SAN ANTONIO (AP)—A Mexican journalist who was the target of death threats like those made by drug cartels says he has been granted asylum in the United States in a case believed to be the first of its kind since the country's bloody drug war began. Two years ago, Jorge Luis Aguirre answered his cell phone while driving to the funeral of a colleague who had been killed in drug violence. "You're next," warned the chilling voice on the other end. Death threats are at the heart of thousands of Mexican asylum requests received by the U.S. each year, but only a fraction of the petitions are granted. Even people who cross the border with fresh bullet wounds or whose family members have been tortured by drug gangs can face long odds.

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- ☑ Gold Pens ..... up to $400
- ☑ Gold Watches ..... up to $1,750
- ☑ Gold Nugget Rings ..... up to $800
- ☑ Gold Pocket Watches ..... up to $750
- ☑ Gold Link Bracelets ..... up to $2,500
- ☑ Gold Broken Chains ..... up to $1,000
- ☑ Gold Service Awards ..... up to $500
- ☑ Gold Broken Bracelets .. up to $1,500
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Asia

China says 4 Japanese filmed military targets

BEIJING (AP)—China is investigating four Japanese suspected of illegally filming military targets and entering a military zone without authorization, state media reported amid a tense diplomatic spat between Beijing and Tokyo over a fishing boat collision near disputed islands.

China's state-run Xinhua News Agency cited state security authorities in the northern city of Shijiazhuang as saying they had "taken measures" against the four Japanese "after receiving a report about their illegal activities." There was no elaboration.

■ ■ ■

TOKYO (AP)—Japanese prosecutors said Friday they will release the captain of a Chinese fishing vessel involved in a collision near disputed islands.

The incident had raised tensions with China, which has angrily demanded Tokyo release the captain, and cut off ministerial-level talks with Japan.

Prosecutors on Ishigaki island in southern Japan, where the captain has been in custody for more than two weeks, said they would free him though it was unclear when that would occur.

The captain was arrested on Sept. 8 after his fishing trawler collided with Japanese coast guard vessels near a string of islands in the East China Sea called Diaoyu or Diaoyutai in Chinese and Senkaku in Japanese.

The islands are controlled by Japan, but are also claimed by China. They are surrounded by rich fishing grounds and are regularly occupied by nationalists from both sides.

The authorities accuse the Japanese of entering a military zone without authorization in Hebei province, the capital of which is Shijiazhuang.

The brief report late Thursday night did not say whether the four Japanese are in detention.

Fujita Corp., a Tokyo-based construction and urban redevelopment company, identified the four men as Yoshiro Sasaki, 44, Hiroshi Hashimoto, 39, Sadamu Takahashi, 57 and Junichi Iguchi, 59, and confirmed they were employees.

At a press briefing, Fujita spokesman Tatsuro Tsuchiya said the company has not been able to contact the men since receiving a one-word text message from one of them Tuesday morning that read "Help."

"We hope that they will be released quickly," Tsuchiya told reporters.

2 Koreas hold talks on split families' reunions

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Red Cross officials from the two Koreas discussed holding another round of reunions for families separated by war more than a half-century ago, South Korea's Unification Ministry said Friday.

The meeting comes a week after the two sides failed to decide on a venue for or the scale of the reunions—popular on both sides of the heavily fortified border.

Agreement on holding the reunions would be a sign of improving relations between the Koreas, whose ties have sunken to new lows after the March sinking of a South Korean warship that an international investigation blamed on Pyongyang. North Korea denies involvement.

In a move that threatens to exacerbate tensions on the peninsula, South Korea and the United States said Friday they will hold joint anti-submarine exercises next week.

Still, the two sides held a 35-minute session in the North's border city of Kaesong on Friday morning and were deciding whether to continue the talks in the afternoon, according to the ministry.

"We will mainly concentrate on making an agreement on the venue issue," South Korean chief negotiator Kim Eyi-do told reporters before crossing the border into Kaesong.

South Korea wants to hold the family meetings in a reunion center at the North's scenic Diamond Mountain resort. The North also suggested hosting the meetings at the resort but wouldn't say where exactly.

India floods kill 17 as millions flee rising water

LUCKNOW, India (AP)—Raging floodwaters triggered by heavy rain in northern India have killed at least 17 people, washed away thousands of homes and forced some 2 million people to evacuate in a 24 hour period, officials said Thursday.

A large swathe of Uttar Pradesh state has been covered by floodwaters spilling over the banks of several rivers that crisscross the region, state spokesman Diwakar Tripathi said. Soldiers and paramilitary troops were working to evacuate people from marooned villages and move them to relief camps in safer areas.

"At least 17 people have died overnight. More than a thousand houses have been washed away. Large areas are under water," Tripathi said.

Northern India has experienced unprecedented rain since August, according to the India Meteorological Department. Most rivers are flowing above the danger mark, including the Yamuna and Ganges that run through Uttar Pradesh.

Temporary shelters and medical facilities were being set up Thursday at relief camps in the state, while army helicopters were dropping food and water packets for people stranded in remote villages, said K.K. Sinha, a relief official.

One of the hardest-hit areas is the industrial town of Moradabad, where some 200,000 people had to be evacuated from the rising water, said Suresh Tomar, a district official.

There was also extensive damage to farmland in the state, with crops worth around 35 billion rupees ($750 million) destroyed, Tripathi said.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Former Indonesia policeman admits ties to al-Qaida

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—A former Indonesian police officer said Thursday he helped al-Qaida train 170 members of a new terror network in Aceh province soon after he left the police force. Mohammed Sofyan Tsauri—who is accused of involvement in several plots targeting foreigners and Western embassies in the predominantly Muslim country—went on trial Thursday. He faces a maximum penalty of death if found guilty of violating anti-terror laws. Tsauri told reporters before entering the District Court in Depok, just south of the capital, that he became "affiliated with al-Qaida" soon after he quit his job as a police officer in 2008. Tsauri said he provided training and some guns the following year to 170 members of the new terror network in Aceh, which was allegedly also plotting attacks on Indonesia's president and security forces.

Afghan president calls for release of journalists

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—President Hamid Karzai called Thursday for the quick release of three Afghan journalists—arrests that analysts said were reminiscent of a strategy the U.S. military used in Iraq to detain local journalists as a way to disrupt insurgents' propaganda networks. All three media workers were picked up over the past week—two by a joint NATO and Afghan force and one by Afghan intelligence officials. Previously, only two other journalists were believed to have been detained in Afghanistan over the course of the nearly nine-year war, according to the New York-based Committee to Protect Journalists. The NATO-led coalition said it had information linking the two journalists in its custody to networks that act as a mouthpiece for the Taliban and hinder efforts to win the loyalty of Afghan citizens skeptical of foreign forces and the Afghan government.

World

US walks out on Ahmadinejad's UN speech

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—The U.S. delegation walked out of the U.N. speech of Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad on Thursday after he said some in the world have speculated that Americans were behind the Sept. 11 terror attacks, staged in an attempt to assure Israel's survival.

He did not explain the logic of that statement that was made as he attacked the U.S. wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Ahmadinejad has called for the destruction of Israel and is deeply at odds with the United States and European allies over its nuclear program and suspicions that it is designed to produce an atomic bomb. Iran says it is only working on technology for electricity generation.

The U.S. delegation left the hall after Ahmadinejad said there were three theories about the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks:

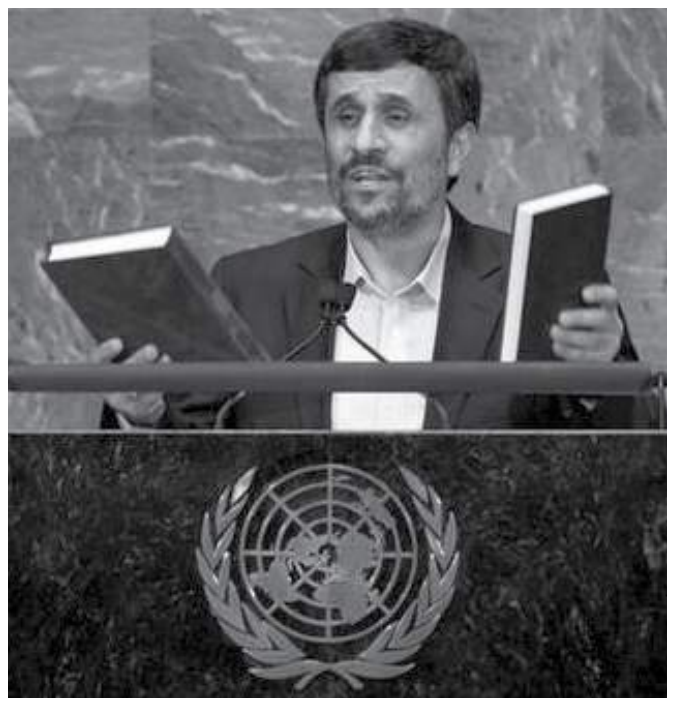
■ That "powerful and complex terrorist group" penetrated U.S. intelligence and defenses.

■ "That some segments within the U.S. government orchestrated the attack to reverse the declining American economy and its grips on the Middle East in order also to save the Zionist regime. The majority of the American people as well as other nations and politicians agree with this view."

The Americans stood and walked out without listening to the third theory, that the attack was the work of "a terrorist group but the American government supported and took advantage of the situation."

Mark Kornblau, spokesman of the U.S. Mission to the world body, issued a statement within moments of Ahmadinejad's attack.

"Rather than representing the aspirations and goodwill of the Iranian people," he said, "Mr. Ahmadinejad has yet again chosen to spout vile conspiracy theories and anti-Semitic slurs that are as abhorrent and delusional as they are predictable."



AP

Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, President of Iran, holds up a copies of the Quran, left, and Bible, right, as he addresses the 65th session of the United Nations General Assembly at U.N. headquarters Thursday, Sept. 23, 2010.

Officials: Palestinians will consider compromise

JERUSALEM (AP)—Hopes of averting a breakdown in Middle East peace talks grew Thursday as senior Palestinian officials said their side would consider an expected U.S.-brokered compromise on Israeli settlement-building in the West Bank.

At issue is the 10-month-old Israeli slowdown on settlement building—a near-halt to new projects aimed at coaxing the Palestinians into talks with the government of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

The restrictions expire Sunday, only weeks after U.S.-sponsored talks were finally launched amid much fanfare. As the deadline looms the region has grown increasingly tense, fearing not only a collapse of the brittle peace effort but perhaps a return to violence as well—fears stoked by a bout of Palestinian rioting Wednesday near key Jerusalem holy sites.

The so-called settlement "moratorium" is far from a freeze on building, because thousands of housing units whose construction preceded November 2009 were allowed to continue under its self-declared terms. But with several notable exceptions, new projects were not launched. The Palestinians want this extended, and the United States publicly backs the demand.

In a speech to fellow world leaders at the U.N. General Assembly Thursday, President Barack Obama called for an extension and said restrictions have "made a difference on the ground, and improved the atmosphere for talks."

Netanyahu has refused—at least in part because key nationalist coalition partners are likely to rebel if he gives in.

Danny Danon, a deputy speaker of Israel's parliament, said he will lead a rally with other hawkish lawmakers from Netanyahu's Likud party Sunday in the West Bank settlement of Revava.

WORLD BRIEFS

Colombia: No. 2 rebel commander killed in raid

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP)—Colombia's military killed the No. 2 leader and top military strategist of the country's main rebel army in blistering bombardments of a major jungle camp, officials announced Thursday, saying rebel informants helped prepare the demoralizing shock to an already weakened insurgency. The death of Jorge Briceno, also known as Mono Jojoy, is a huge setback for the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, which has been reeling from years of pressure by an increasingly effective U.S.-backed military. President Juan Manuel Santos called the attack "the most crushing blow against the FARC in its entire history"—more important than the March 2008 bombing raid across the border with Ecuador that killed FARC foreign minister Raul Reyes or the bloodless ruse that July that freed former presidential candidate Ingrid Betancourt, three U.S. contractors and 11 other hostages.

New strikes in France over retirement age

PARIS (AP)—French authorities estimated nearly 1 million protesters filled the streets Thursday to try to force President Nicolas Sarkozy to drop his plan to raise the retirement age two years to 62, while strikes also disrupted airports, train stations and schools for the second time this month. The protest movement has been a big test for Sarkozy, who, like other European leaders, has struggled to convince his country of the need for cost-cutting and scaling back generous social benefits after the Greek debt crisis scared markets and sapped confidence in the entire 16-nation euro currency. France's powerful unions consider retirement at 60 to be a near-sacred right, and more than 230 demonstrations stretched from the southern port city of Marseille to Lille in the north. Some protesters carried signs demanding early retirement for Sarkozy, whose dismal approval ratings hover in the mid-30s.

Maharlika

PINOY LIFE IN THE MARIANAS

Saturday, September 25, 2010

Maglonzo makes a life out of his music

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

When Jerry Kesina Maglonzo starts strumming his guitar, he transforms life's sorrow and anguish into evocative lyrics and melodic arrangements.

"Music helps me express my emotions. It's the art that helps me communicate how I feel and what I think about what's going on around me," Maglonzo told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview.

Maglonzo, 51, said he has always been passionate about music as far back as he could remember. "Music makes me feel young," he added, smiling.

A native of Bataan province, Maglonzo said he wrote his first song at 11, called *Queen of My Dreams*, for his mother.

"My mother bought me my very first guitar. As my way of saying thank you, I wrote a song about her and let her know how much I love her," he recounted.

Since then, Maglonzo has been creating original compositions. His music leans toward folk music, particularly folk ballads and folk rock. He said he creates songs that talk about life, are socially relevant, and revolutionary. At one time, he wrote a song when their house burned to the ground and when he lost his guest worker status on Saipan.

Jerry Kesina Maglonzo is photographed with his guitar at his residence in Dandan. Maglonzo recently joined the music competition Pacific Break by Radio Australia with his entry titled Pain.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

"I don't sing for the rich people. I only sing for the poor and marginalized because I can relate to them. I become their voice through my songs," he said when asked to describe his music.

Maglonzo's career as a musician dates back to the late '70s when he quit college as a civil engineering student and went to work, playing his guitar in bistros in Olongapo City.

"I realized that music was my calling," he said.

At 18, Maglonzo already had a taste of fame and fortune so overwhelming that he lost his way. "I committed the biggest mistake of my life then because I got into all sorts of vices," he said.

Being a father of five, Maglonzo taught his children not to follow his former ways and to finish their studies to succeed in life.

In 1991 and in a twist of fate, Maglonzo chose to be in the automotive industry on Saipan over being a band member in Japan.

When he came to Saipan, Maglonzo began using the stage name Glenn Mesina since another singer was already recognized by his first name.

Even with his job doing body repair of vehicles, Maglonzo carried on with his music, which also bonded his family together. In fact, Maglonzo and his three teenagers have formed a group called The Vyruz Band.

"Just like a virus, we want to share and spread our music to other people," said Maglonzo, adding that through the band, he is able to teach his children to be aware of social issues.

Only recently, Maglonzo joined Pacific Break, a music competition organized by Radio Australia, the international radio and online service of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation.

Maglonzo entered his song titled *Pain*, which was inspired by poverty, hunger, and other challenges the whole world has to deal with.

Although he didn't win, Maglonzo said joining the competition was already a victory in itself because he was able to share his music with people from different countries and island nations.

In fact, Maglonzo said his classmates who live in Australia communicated with him to tell him that his song was being played in radio stations there.

Like any artist, Maglonzo said he dreams of recording the perfect album, one that he has worked hard for and carries his original compositions.

Maglonzo revealed his plan to release an acoustic album of English and Tagalong songs by next month. He is currently working on a song titled *Mysterious Paradise*, which will be about the island he has called home.

Maglonzo believes that music is his fate, his destiny. "I will continue to make music as long as I live."

Schedule for second batch of *Gabay sa Negosyo* now available

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Due to insistent public demand, the Philippine Consulate General will continue the screening of the second batch of livelihood modules on VCDs for all Filipino workers on Saipan.

"The attendance of several Filipinos in the livelihood modules offered in September 2010 has encouraged the consulate to offer the second batch of modules for showing," said the Consulate.

Titled *Gabay sa Negosyo* [Business Guides], these livelihood modules equip Filipinos on Saipan with information on various livelihood and small business opportunities in the Philippines.

The livelihood modules provide information on alternative sources of livelihood and will supplement reintegration programs for overseas Filipino workers.

The VCDs were obtained from the Technology Resource Center of the Department of Science and Technology of the Philippines.

In October, the livelihood modules to be offered are as follows:

- **Business Crafts I: Oct. 4 to 8**
- **Business Crafts II: Oct. 12 to 15**
- **Agri-Business I: Oct. 18 to 22**
- **Agri-Business II: Oct. 25 to 29**

The initial batch included the screening of livelihood modules on Baking and Candy Making, Meat and Fish Processing, and Processed Food.

The video presentations will be held during office hours from 9am to 4pm at Room 502 of the Marianas Business Plaza.

Only 12 seats are available for each screening to provide an atmosphere conducive to learning. Those who do not have reserved seats will only be allowed in the room if there are vacant slots.

Participants must bring their own writing materials for note taking.

Those who will watch the livelihood modules for the first time would be required to watch two basic VCDs, *Pangangasiwa ng Negosyo* [Managing a Business] and Basic Financial Management.

For reservation, call the consulate general at 234-1848, 234-1850 or 234-1851 and look for Hazel Mendoza.

Registration for four training courses still open

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Registration is still ongoing for four of the five training courses to be offered by Philippine Consulate General Office through the Philippine Overseas Labor Office next month.

Labor representative Carmelina Velasquez told *Saipan Tribune* that all 35 slots for Building and Fixing Computers have been filled up.

However, there are still available slots for the Fastfood Business, Tailoring, Basic Fruit Carving, and Financial Literacy courses.

The Fastfood Business course will have five different batches, with a maximum number of 40 students per batch. Each batch will be conducted from 8am to 5pm and will run from Oct. 2 to 30. Instructor will be Hermie B. Coronejo.

Domingo S. del Rosario will conduct the Tailoring course from Oct. 2 to 30, from 9am to noon. Only 35 students will be accommodated for the course.

Eduardo M. Elenzano will be teaching the Basic Fruit Carving Course to 50 students. Classes will be held from Nov. 6 to 20 at 1pm to 5pm.

The Financial Literacy course will be administered byVelasquez, Ignacio D. Banadera, Melvin J. Malvar, and Remily D. Oca to a maximum of 50 students. Classes will run from Nov. 6 to Dec. 4 at 9am to noon.

All courses will be held every Saturday. For information, visit POLO at the ground floor of Marianas Business Plaza or call 235-6992 or 235-3411.

Philippine dad convicted of rape gets 14,400 years

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A Philippine court has sentenced a father to 14,400 years in prison after he was convicted of the near daily rape of his teenage daughter over the course of a year.

A trial court originally condemned the man, a rickshaw driver, to die in March 2006 after he was convicted of 360 counts of rape—allegedly carried out during the year his wife worked in Hong Kong.

But the Court of Appeals in Manila commuted the sentence to 40 years for each count, according to a court decision obtained Friday. The defendant can still appeal to the Supreme Court. It was not clear if he would.

The then-13-year-old victim, now 22, said her ordeal began in January 2001, when her mother left for work in Hong Kong as a domestic helper and left her three children with their father in Los Banos, a township just south of Manila.

She said he forced her to have intercourse with him almost every day, except when she had her period or on holidays, when he would make her perform oral sex.

The ordeal only ended after she and her siblings spent a vacation with their mother's relatives. Reluctant to return to her father at the end of the vacation, she broke down and told her family about the abuse. Her mother returned home from Hong Kong and helped her file the case.

The appeals court affirmed the lower court's dismissal of the defense's contention that the man's wife made up the allegations to get custody of the children and marry a foreigner.

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PHILIPPINE BRIEFS

Aquino entourage pays $54 for lunch of hotdogs on NY sidewalk

NEW YORK—After a morning of meetings in his room at the Sofitel hotel here Thursday morning, President Benigno Aquino and his entourage took a break for lunch— hotdogs on a New York sidewalk at a total cost of $54. Aquino, his US Secret Service detail, his Filipino guards, some officials, his defeated running-mate in last May's elections, former senator Manuel Roxas II, and reporters covering his US visit partook of the sandwiches at the corner of Sixth Avenue and West 45th Street. Aquino had his hotdog with catsup and onions, and a bottle of soda. "Normally, my lunch is sandwich and soup," said Aquino, New York-style hotdog in hand. Told that he was causing quite a scene with all the suited men around him and TV cameras documenting every bite as he devoured his sandwich, Aquino he was not going to stay out much longer anyway. "I should be out of here in a little while," he said, apparently with some concern for the stress he was causing his Secret Service escorts. "But (eating hotdogs is) actually one of the things you look forward to when you come to New York," he added. ***(Philippine Daily Inquirer)***

British ship captain shot dead in Philippines

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Police say a British ship captain was shot dead in the northern Philippines in the second attack in as many days against a foreigner in the country. Bruce Anthony Jones was in a car in Angeles city en route to a firing range when two men on a motorcycle fatally shot him and wounded his Filipino wife Tuesday. Senior Supt. Danilo Bautista said Wednesday the 50-year-old Jones lived in nearby Olongapo. His British hometown was not immediately available. His wife will undergo surgery for a gunshot wound and has not yet talked to police at length. But she told them she did not recognize the gunmen. On Monday, an American man was shot dead in southern Iligan city. Investigators don't yet know a motive in both cases.

6 members of family killed in southern Philippines

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Police say gunmen burst into a home and shot dead six members of a family and wounded two others in the southern Philippines. National police spokesman Agrimero Cruz said Thursday investigators are looking into all possible motives—including a clan feud—in the killings in Jolo island's Patikul township. The Aroh family was inside their house when men barged in Tuesday night and started shooting. Jolo is a stronghold of al-Qaida-linked Abu Sayyaf militants. The region is awash with unlicensed guns, and weak law enforcement prevails.

14 hurt as Philippine police battle squatters

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—More than a dozen people have been injured in the Philippines in clashes between thousands of squatters and police and demolition crews trying to evict them from government property to be used for a high-end commercial project. Philippine Red Cross Secretary General Gwen Pang says most of the 14 men treated after Thursday's clash are members of the demolition team who were hit by stones or other objects. The violence halted traffic on Manila's busiest road for several hours. The National Housing Authority says 3,500 of the 9,000 families illegally squatting on the 72-acre (29-hectare) property in suburban Quezon City have voluntarily relocated to make way for a 22 billion peso ($500 million) project that will include condominiums, office buildings and malls.

Philippines' Aquino: ASEAN will 'stand as a bloc'

By FOSTER KLUG
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

AP

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton shakes hands with Philippine President Benigno Aquino during the Millennium Challenge Cooperation signing ceremony with in New York City Thursday, Sept. 23, 2010. The ceremony highlighted the signing between Millennium Challenge Corporation and The Republic of the Philippines.

NEW YORK (AP)—The president of the Philippines said Thursday that a group of Southeast Asian nations will be unified should China use its weight as regional superpower in territorial disputes in the South China Sea.

Benigno Aquino III, speaking a day ahead of a meeting of President Barack Obama and leaders of the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations that will focus on territorial spats with China, said Beijing has so far not tried to "push us around."

But, he said after a speech on the sidelines of a United Nations global summit, "in case that happens, I think ASEAN has demonstrated that we will stand as a block."

In a reference to China, he said: "Hopefully we don't hear the phrase 'South China Sea' with reference to it being their sea."

Aquino, the son of democracy icons, also praised the Obama administration's attempts to strengthen its role in the region, saying the United States has shown a willingness to make its military presence felt.

The Philippines has said it plans a major renovation of an airport on an island it occupies in the contentious Spratlys chain in the South China Sea. China and other nations also claim all or parts of the island group.

According to a draft communique, Obama and Southeast Asian leaders will call for the peaceful settlement of South China Sea territorial disputes and urge claimants not to resort to force.

Beijing was furious after U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton told a regional security forum in Vietnam in July that the peaceful resolution of disputes over the Spratly and Paracel island groups was an American national interest. Beijing said Washington was interfering in an Asian regional issue.

The United States worries the disputes could hurt access to one of the world's busiest commercial sea lanes.

China claims all of the South China Sea, where Vietnam, Taiwan, Malaysia, Brunei and the Philippines have also laid territorial claims. Aside from rich fishing areas, the region is believed to have huge oil and natural gas deposits. The contested islands straddle busy sea lanes that are a crucial conduit for oil and other resources fueling China's fast-expanding economy.

State Department spokesman P.J. Crowley told reporters Thursday that the United States supports the principle of freedom of navigation in the region.

Philippine Muslim rebels drop independence demand

BY OLIVER TEVES
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The chief government negotiator in peace talks with Muslim rebels on Thursday welcomed a rebel leader's statement that his group is no longer demanding independence from the Philippines and instead is seeking a status similar to a U.S. state.

The rebel announcement Wednesday "will definitely pave the way to finding an understanding for a politically feasible arrangement that maintains the territorial integrity and the fundamental premise of people's sovereignty in one republic," law school dean Marvic Leonen said in a statement.

"We hope that there can be a lot of common ground" with the rebels, Leonen, head of the government negotiating panel, later told The Associated Press. The rebels have been fighting for Muslim self-rule for about four decades.

Mohagher Iqbal, chief negotiator for the 11,000-strong Moro Islamic Liberation Front, told local reporters on Wednesday that his group wanted a "substate" that he likened to a U.S. state. He said it would not be independent and would be under a "unitary government."

"It is not stated in our proposal specifically, but the formulation that we have put up is really for the creation of a ... substate arrangement," Iqbal was quoted as saying.

Leonen said it was a "welcome clarification" of the rebel position.

"We are willing to listen to the concept that they are willing to propose," he told the AP.

Talks collapsed in 2008 after the Supreme Court rejected a preliminary accord that would have expanded an existing Muslim autonomous region in the southern Philippines.

A spokeswoman for the court said then that eight of 15 justices voted to declare the deal unconstitutional because the proposed Muslim homeland would lead to its "eventual independence," which would violate the country's "physical and territorial integrity."

After the court threw out the proposed agreement, rebel negotiator Musib Buat said the rebels had been "pushed to the wall" and the only option left for them was "to revert to the original goal of independence" and campaign for "decolonization" with support from the United Nations and the International Court of Justice.

Iqbal gave scant details about what the rebels sought to establish, saying only that the Muslim substate would not wield four powers exercised by a central government—national defense, foreign affairs, currency and coinage, and postal services. He said it would not maintain a separate armed forces and would only have troops for "internal security."

6-month amnesty for overstaying aliens in Saudi

MANILA, Philippines—The Saudi government has granted a six-month amnesty for overstaying foreigners, Labor Secretary Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz said in a news release.

The amnesty ordered by King Abdullah bin Abdulazziz Al-Saud paves the way for the so-called illegals, including Filipinos, to go home to their home countries without any punishment, she said.

Citing a report by Al-Khobar-based Philippine Labor Attache David Des Dicang, Baldoz said the pardon would cover all foreigners who arrived in Saudi Arabia on Haj, Umrah, visit visa, or any other type of visa which had expired, or those who have violated passport regulations.

"This is, indeed, very good news for Filipino 'illegals' in Saudi Arabia," Baldoz said.

The Saudi Interior Ministry has advised "illegal stayers" to leave the kingdom from Sept. 25, 2010, to March 23, 2011, and can start by reporting to the nearest office of the Saudi Ministry of Foreign Affairs and completing the necessary procedures for their departure, news reports in Saudi newspapers said.

Dicang said violators caught after this grace period will receive severe punishment including jail time and heavy fines. "The punishment will extend to those who transport or shelter or employ overstayers," he said.

"We are grateful for this act of charity by the Saudi King," Baldoz said.

This amnesty will make it easier for the Philippine government to abide by the instructions of President Benigno Aquino III to expand the government's protection of all distressed overseas Filipino workers. The order includes bringing home stranded Filipinos in Saudi.

Since July, the Department and Foreign Affairs and the Department of Labor and Employment, through its labor attaches and the welfare officers of the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration, have been working double time to repatriate Filipinos not only in Saudi Arabia, but also those in other Middle East countries.

From July 10 to Sept. 1 this year, the Philippine Overseas Labor Offices in Jeddah, Kuwait, and Bahrain have repatriated 773 Filipinos, including children of OFWs. Seven hundred and three of them were repatriated from Jeddah.

The Philippines had spent P15 million in repatriation costs.

"We enjoin overstaying Filipinos in Saudi Arabia to take advantage and avail of the amnesty so they can go home to the Philippines," Baldoz said, even as she directed all labor attaches and welfare officers in the Kingdom to lend a helping hand to facilitate the departure of those who will avail of the pardon.

She also directed them to address the root cause of why Filipinos overstay. "Do the best you can to implement strictly our reform program, particularly on the recruitment and deployment of household service workers," she said. ***(INQUIRER.net)***

Maharlika – PinoyStyle

SHOWBIZ 101

'Sweet' starlet's nasty side shows

By the INQUIRER ENTERTAINMENT STAFF
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Pretty Starlet plays sweet martyrs onscreen. In real life, she is a venomous villain, according to Veteran Star.

VS witnessed how PS gave Sworn Enemies dagger looks during a gathering, in front of several people, including top executives.

PS is called "Loose Cannon" by colleagues. Loose Cannon has loose lips, too. We all know what loose lips do to ships.

War of TV execs

A silent war is simmering in the studio and Network Exec 1 is stressed. Rumor has it that Network Exec 2 is itching for heads to roll—including NE1's.

NE1 complained to big bosses about NE2's hate campaign. Problem is, NE2 had NE1 promoted right before the problem started. Was that a tactical move on NE2's part? NE1 can't claim that NE2 is unfair. Management 101!

Star wars redux

The whole of show town seems to be in a pugnacious mood: Claudine Barretto vs Angelica Panganiban. Annabelle Rama vs Angeli Pangilinan. Marian Rivera vs Bela Padilla. Now here's Toni Gonzaga vs erstwhile friend Mariel Rodriguez.

At the press con for a new ABS-CBN show, "Kokei at Ako," Toni stunned reporters by opening up about her falling out with Mariel. Toni didn't give details, but didn't hide her disappointment, either. She was too trusting, she complained: "I'm now more careful about getting too close to people I hardly know. I don't want to get hurt anymore."

Alyna's anatomy

File this one under Anatomy of a Rumor: At the press con for her new ABS-CBN show "Alyna," Shaina Magdayao had to address the wild rumor concerning her alleged hospital visit due to a bedroom mishap (discreetly called "vag lock" in a Net report).

She was "sad" that this "outrageous" rumor had spread like wildfire. She said the tattletale might be traceable to an episode of "Grey's Anatomy," a U.S. medical drama. "The rumor-mongers watch too much TV," she said. "Why would John Lloyd (Cruz) and I go to a public hospital when we are celebrities?"

(Go ahead, girl— tell us.)

Dingdong's defense

Dingdong Dantes rushed to defend girlfriend Marian Rivera, who is under fire for purportedly maltreating "Endless Love" co-star Bela Padilla. Marian is allegedly jealous, Bela being close to Dingdong.

Dong sent a lengthy text message to the press, which read in part: "I am saddened by the false accusations... which I feel are unfair and... totally blown out of proportion... I will be behind [Marian], beside her, and even in front of her, in fulfilling her dreams... Our relationship is at its strongest... From hereon, we will direct our attention to more important matters." (We bet this is helping the ratings.)

Top of the tabloids

The top show biz stories in Inquirer tabloid Bandera last week. (And why we are moved, if we are moved.)

■ Dahil daw sa pagbabanta ni Claudine Barretto, Angelica Panganiban kumuha na ng bodyguard. (Derek's not enough?)

■ Raymart Santiago, Claudine nagkakalabuan na? (Kami rin, nalalabuan, actually.)

■ KC Concepcion, Piolo Pascual grabeng maglandian? (Like BF-GF or BFFs?)

■ Bela Padilla na-trauma sa katarayan ni Marian Rivera. (Please just go ahead and go to court, girls.)

■ Marian tinalakan ni Claire de la Fuente. (Sayang!)

■ Marian kinampihan ni Rita Avila; idiniin si Bela. (Eto pa isa.)

■ Marian kaplastikan ang pakikipagbati kay Bela. (Puhleez.)

■ Kasalang Ogie Alcasid-Regine Velasquez may sabit? (Na naman? Everybody back to square one—secrecy and suspense!)

■ Nakaka-stress ang magpakasal ngayon!—Ogie (Ayan na...)

■ Edu Manzano, Pinky Webb nagpakasal na sa US? (Malalaki na sila.)

■ Sarah Geronimo ayaw lumipat sa TV5. (Not her call, is it?)

■ Sarah: Opo, kinikilig ako kina Sam Milby at Coco Martin! (Now, this is her call.)

■ Jolina Magdangal: Handa na akong mabuntis! (Totally her call—with a little help.)

■ Nagkalat ng Shaina Magdayao-John Lloyd Cruz sex scandal idedemanda! (Kahit kakampi nila?)

■ Sharon Cuneta: Mahirap maging mataba! (You bet.)

■ Dingdong Dantes nadamay sa kanegahan ni Marian. (Osmosis: It's a law of nature.)

Charice draws raves, awe, pride in 'Glee'

By CORA LUCAS
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Charice Pempengco's performance in the second season opener of the musical comedy-drama TV series "Glee" yesterday was a bright spot in a whole week of infuriating news, and not just in Philippine entertainment.

Online raves, variations of two very strong sentiments—pride and awe—immediately clogged Twitter and Facebook sites: "Brilliant!" "We love you; you make us Filipinos proud."

The single episode, of course, could well open Hollywood's doors wider for the young Filipina that Oprah Winfrey tagged "the most talented girl in the world."

But that was the last thing on the minds of Gleeks (geeks who love "Glee") while they were glued to the tube at 4pm yesterday to watch the sing-off and "cat fight" between the petite Pinay and the show's lead star, Lea Michele.

Charice's character initially came off as an unassuming, very shy Filipino exchange student inappropriately named Sunshine Corazon, who sported a pair of big nerdy glasses. She soon surfaced as a threat to the other singing characters when she showcased her power-belting prowess—first in a bathroom confrontation with Lea Michele's character, Rachel, and later, on her own, as she tried out for New Directions, the high school show choir.

Charice's performs a guest spot in the second season opener of the musical comedy-drama TV series "Glee."

Outshines star

The 18-year-old easily outshone Lea Michele in the earlier sequence, where they performed Lady Gaga and Beyonce's dance ditty, "Telephone." (A Twitter post boasted, "Charice just schooled Diva Michele!") Her "audition" performance could be more compelling than Beyonce's popular rendition of the piece, "Listen," in the movie "Dreamgirls."

Charice had been worried about how that performance would be received. She said so herself when she attended the season opener's premiere screening at the Paramount Theater in Los Angeles two weeks ago. "Kinakabahan po ako (I'm getting the jitters)," she told Inquirer Los Angeles correspondent Ruben Nepales.

Charice has been filming the series for two months, and she expects a few more weeks of work to complete her guest appearance in the show this season.

More face-offs

More face-offs are expected in succeeding episodes as Sunshine Corazon has decided to join New Directions' rival glee club, Vocal Adrenaline, in another school. Her parting line in episode 1: "I could have stayed here but Rachel would have made my life a living hell."

She could be right. The character Rachel, unnerved as she was by the singing newbie, concedes that Sunshine Corazon "has a remarkable voice." Offscreen, Lea Michele was earlier quoted as being awed by Charice's powerful vocals.

"Glee" was created by Ryan Murphy, who was quoted in an interview last month as saying, "Charice sang for us and I just knew I had to create a special role for her."

The series, which debuted in the Philippines in May last year, combines comedy, music, dance and drama in a story about a group of misfits aspiring to win the National Glee Club Competition.

Yesterday's season opener, heavily loaded with commercials, shows a typical day in the fictional William McKinley High School in Lima, Ohio. It picks up where the last episode left off, with the New Directions aiming for the sectional competition again. To beat the rival glee club, New Directions sets off to recruit new members.

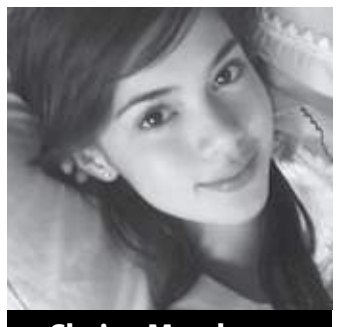
"Glee" also stars Matthew Morrison, Jane Lynch, Cory Monteith, Amber Riley, Chris Colfer, Kevin McHale, Jenna Ushkowitz, Mark Salling and Dianna Agron.

Joining the cast as new regulars are cheerleaders Brittany and Santana played by Heather Morris and Naya Rivera and new lady football coach Dot-Marie Jones, who was reportedly cast to match Jane Lynch.

Guest celebrities to look forward to this season are Javier Bardem, Britney Spears and John Stamos. Another face to look out for is Jack TV and ETC's "Glee Off to Hollywood" Filipino winner Hazel Faith de la Cruz, who has landed a walk-on role.

Shaina: ER rumor has made us closer

By BAYANI SAN DIEGO JR.
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER



Shaina Magdayao

John Lloyd Cruz

MANILA, Philippines—Shaina Magdayao called that "emergency room" rumor "not just the nastiest, but the most foul and unfair scandal" that she ever had the misfortune of getting involved in.

Actually, it's more than a personal worst for her; it also marked an all-time low for an industry that's already notorious for scraping the bottom of the barrel for scandals.

"I thought it was demeaning, degrading. I felt it was cheap. But not painful. I didn't get all that hurt because I knew it wasn't true," Magdayao explained at the launch of her new ABS-CBN series, "Precious Hearts Romance Presents Alyna," last week.

"I first heard about it two or three weeks ago," she recalled. "My handler called me about it, and she was laughing."

She herself thought it was a laughing matter at first. "I saw an episode of 'Grey's Anatomy' that had a case like that. I didn't get the exact scientific term, though."

According to ABS-CBN news online, Star Magic denied the rumor that Shaina and boyfriend John Lloyd Cruz had been rushed to the hospital because of a condition known as penis captivus. Other reports not too subtly called it "vag lock."

"I was shocked that an outrageous rumor like that was spread about us," Shaina said. "I respect other people's opinion about my work. But not rumors like that."

When she and John Lloyd discussed it, she recalled, they ended up laughing about it, too. They decided to take the high ground, Shaina said.

"I'm sure there' s a reason that it happened," she said. "Perhaps to make us stronger, better people. Perhaps so that we would appreciate life and our blessings more."

Supportive

John Lloyd has remained supportive, said Shaina. "He has never abandoned me in the face of problems."

Neither did it push them to the brink of separation. "I'm very thankful that he is always there to hold my hand through tough times," Shaina said. "Our relationship has become stronger."

Their "purpose" in each other's life has become crystal-clear, too, she told the press.

No stunt

She shunned insinuations that it was just a publicity stunt to promote their latest projects ("Alyna" for her and "Imortal" for him).

"If it were a gimmick, it would definitely come from our end," she asserted. "But I know that [our talent management firm] Star Magic doesn't market or promote its stars in a negative way. I myself definitely want to be known and noticed for my talent ... and not for any scandal."

She related that Star Magic is now investigating the matter and that her father is considering filing a case against the rumor-mongers.

A suspect

"Star Magic and my family are doing something about it. We want to make a point that people can't just spread rumors about stars... If others find that amusing, for us who are victimized, it's simply not funny."

Shaina's camp reportedly has a suspect in mind.

"I don't want to point an accusing finger at anyone, but I believe that person's conscience will not rest... I will pray for that person."

Maharlika – Opinyon

‘Quo vadis?’

When Corazon Aquino flew to the United States in July 1986, she was coming off a high point. The euphoria from the Edsa People Power Revolution was still there, and despite opposition from Left and Right, the rebels in the hills and the rebels in the camps, she pretty much had the nation behind her. When her son Benigno Aquino III flew there last Monday, he was coming off a low point. Despite having the nation still behind him, he was being buffeted by criticism right and left, at home and abroad, his enemies openly questioning his ability to rule.

When Cory flew to the U.S. four months after she came to power, she was coming off a high note. Her popularity was so immense people were telling her to repudiate the fraudulent debts, or at least get the banks to condone them, the U.S. would be at pains to refuse her, or go against her. When P-Noy flew to the U.S. last Monday, he was coming off a low note. His justice secretary had just given the world to understand that that based on the results of her investigation heads truly ought to roll, some of them belonging to close friends of his.

When the icon of democracy flew to the U.S. after toppling a tyrant, she strode upon the world stage and performed brilliantly, aided in no small way by brilliant speechwriters, and came home in triumph. When the hope of decency went to the U.S. last Monday after dislodging a tyrant, he was at pains to find a message that would appease the world, let alone bring it to its knees, little helped by a lack of brilliant speechwriters.

There is a bright note to all this, which is no small irony. Cory came home in triumph, but a few months later met with a coup by Juan Ponce Enrile and company, former allies who resented the fact that she, and not they, were the toast of the world. P-Noy will come home in triumph or disappointment (we will know soon enough) but he can at least be assured no armed group will try to wrest power from him. He can be assured further that if one does, Juan Ponce Enrile and company, former foes, will be there to see him through.

P-Noy’s trip abroad is an especially good time to ask where his government is going. I myself remain confident that despite the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune that have darkened his sky, he will still do this country proud, he will still make this country proud of him. The decency is there, the earnestness is there, the willingness is there, and those are ramparts that can stand the most strenuous sieges. But surviving is one thing, prevailing is another. He wants to go beyond the first and do the second, he will have to solve two particular problems that have brought his government to a crawl, if not a standstill. And he will have to do it soon.

The first is to stop having two groups of horses pulling his government in opposite directions. That was a horrendous form of execution in ancient times, which resulted in the criminal quite literally being torn limb from limb. The problem is not just that P-Noy has crowned too many heads in several departments—Communications and the DILG are the egregious examples, shown up by the hostage crisis—which is bad enough. You have too many people in charge, you will have no one in charge. You have too many people being responsible, you will have everyone taking the credit and no one accepting the blame. If the hostage crisis had ended well, you think anyone of them would be saying they had nothing to do with it, they were out of the loop?

But worse, P-Noy has crowned too many heads in several departments who violently dislike each other. It’s not just petty jealousies, though there’s that too, and though there’s more pettiness than jealousy. It’s also that they belong to two camps that want to take over government. The division, and enmity, between the “Balay camp” and the “Samar camp,” between Mar Roxas’ boys and P-Noy’s chums, which the media have reported, are real. A policy of appeasing both sides won’t work. Never has. You try to please everyone, you won’t please anyone. Least of all Juan de la Cruz, who should really be the only one a president—especially a People’s President like P-Noy—ought to be pleasing.

There’s The Rub

By CONRADO DE QUIROS

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

The second, which is far less obvious, is for him to recover his Edsa roots. It’s not just that I’ve raised this criticism from Day One of P-Noy’s government, it’s that I’ve raised this criticism from Day One of P-Noy’s campaign. From the start, the temptation to succumb to trapo politics was there, and today’s squabbles between the two parties inside P-Noy’s government is a particularly ugly case of it. This is a war between trapos, or between two groups of people who have lost their sense of something bigger than themselves, if at all they had it to begin with.

If that war reveals anything in fact, it is the sheer and utter lack of representation in P-Noy’s government of the volunteer groups that were the heart of his campaign. The same volunteer groups that saw P-Noy as the right candidate: If not for them, Butch Abad and company would have campaigned to the bitter end for Mar Roxas for president, and truly found a bitter end. The same volunteer groups that saw Edsa as the right cause: If not for them, P-Noy would not have become larger than life, he would have become smaller than Gibo. The same volunteer groups that made the Impossible Dream possible once more: If not for them, P-Noy would not be president.

The first in fact is just a symptom of the second. It’s not just that P-Noy’s government is losing its motor, it is that it is losing its GSP. It’s not just that it is losing its capacity for motion, it is that it is losing its sense of direction. P-Noy’s trip to the US is truly an especially good time to reflect on the bigger journey of life and government, and ask:

Quo vadis?

EDITORIAL

Surrender

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The Senate hearing on jueteng has turned out to be a disaster for Interior Undersecretary Rico E. Puno, and it threatens to produce another disaster for the entire nation.

Still reeling from the embarrassment over the failed hostage rescue attempt last Aug. 23, Puno found himself again in the center of another controversy when his name landed on a list submitted by retired Archbishop Oscar Cruz to the Senate as one of the “ultimate recipients” of jueteng payola. Puno, who is in charge of police matters in the Department of Interior and Local Government, may have been wrongly accused, but he did not help disabuse suspicious minds with his evasive answers during the Senate hearing last Sept. 21.

But if Puno’s lack of candor was disappointing, the solution to the old illegal numbers game now being suggested by some senators is disturbing, to say the least. Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile and Sen. Jinggoy Estrada have revived the easy solution put forward by the President that jueteng brought down, Joseph Estrada, which is to legalize jueteng.

This illegal numbers game, the argument goes, has been around since time immemorial and has persisted despite countless attempts to stamp it out. If we allow the rich their excessively wasteful vices, why not let the poor enjoy some of their small indulgences? Besides, without jueteng, thousands of rural families who rely on this illegal numbers racket for livelihood will die of hunger.

We disagree. We are with Archbishop Oscar Cruz of Krusada Laban sa Jueteng in saying that jueteng can be stopped. Cruz says it’s just a matter of cutting off its “two legs” that bring it from one house to another, with impunity: the local officials and the police officers who tolerate or protect its operations. And he points to the communities in the country where jueteng (or masiao) can’t proliferate to prove this.

Indeed, jueteng must be stopped. Not just because like all forms of gambling, it erodes a people’s cultural and moral foundations and corrupts social institutions, including the Church, but more importantly because, contrary to what some people say that it is the least destructive of all forms of gambling, it is the worst.

First of all, it strikes into the very heart of our society, the family. Other games of chance draw “walk-in” bettors. This one is door-to-door pick-up and delivery. Nobody makes a living from visiting the houses of the poor and inviting them to a casino or to a game of tong-its or mahjjong.

Second, it is oppressive, of the poor most especially. In fact, it primarily targets the poor. Worse, it is a con game. Jueteng is not a game of chance, or a game of luck. The winning numbers are pre-selected before each draw, depending on which combination of numbers the smallest bet has been placed.

Simply put, jueteng victimizes the poor more than anybody. Legalizing it is tantamount to inviting them to entrust their day-to-day survival to chance. It is like legalizing deceit.

‘Ri-ka-ru-te’

Artemio Ricarte’s “Himagsikan nang manga Pilipino laban sa Kastila” was published in Yokohama, Japan, in 1927. The imprint given is “Karihan Café.” Ricarte’s wife ran a restaurant visited by Filipinos traveling in Japan. If one was homesick or tired of Japanese fare, Karihan Luvimin on 149 Yamasitacho, Yokohama, was the place for Pinoy food and a meeting with a living relic of the Philippine Revolution and a veteran of the Philippine-American War.

For a number of years now, I have sought the assistance of the Philippine Embassy in Japan to negotiate with the owner of the building where Karihan Luvimin once stood so we can install a historical marker there. There has been little progress on this project because our contacts in Japan are more interested in Rizal than Ricarte.

Then there is a memorial to “Ri-ka-ru-te” at Yamashita Park in Yokohama erected by the Philippines-Japan Friendship Society in 1972. It consists of a block of granite with a relief of Ricarte’s pouting face. It is ironic that when you take a souvenir photograph of the Ricarte Memorial here, its background happens to be the golden arches of McDonald’s, which is quite apt for a man who fought long and hard against “American Imperialism.”

Looking Back

By AMBETH OCAMPO

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Yokohama was a refuge not only for Ricarte but also for Mariano Ponce whose house should really be marked because it was visited by his friend Dr. Sun Yat-sen (1866-1925). Ponce, a friend of Rizal, is better known as a member of the Reform Movement in Spain, but his later life is not well known. He wrote one of the first biographies of Sun Yat-sen and published this in 1912.

It would be relevant for us to dig up stories about other Filipino expatriates in Japan in the 19th century and the early 20th century to provide some historical perspective to the many Filipinos today who live and work there. Many young Filipinos are growing up in foreign lands and it is essential that history be used to give them a sense of their roots in the Philippines.

Regarding Ricarte’s stay in Yokohama, we have photographs and some documentary material. His return to the Philippines in December 1903 we know from Philippine National Police and Philippine Constabulary reports.

Ricarte tried to interest the men once prominent in the revolution against Spain to rise anew against the US and was disappointed that he could not enlist their support. In the stenographic notes of his interrogation he said the following:

Ricarte called on Emilio Aguinaldo a number of times and said, “I reproached Aguinaldo for having sworn allegiance to the American government and not having preferred death, and for having deceived the people and caused so many deaths. I also explained to him the idea which had brought me, and he answered that he did not wish to take part in the revolution seeing that the people did not accept him now. Lastly, I asked him for a sum of money for my aid and he denied me, stating he was poor.”

Ricarte called on Pio del Pilar in Peñafrancia, Paco. He narrated: “We held a conference which touched upon the situation as it then was and upon my plans. Pio del Pilar having adhered to them all asked to accompany me, which I did not accept because I did not trust him, and I advised him to remain in Manila until such time as he should see that the people responded.”

Ricarte called on Gregorio Aglipay in Calle Espeleta, Santa Cruz, Manila, and they conferred for an hour after which the founding head of Iglesia Filipina Independiente, “advised me to surrender myself, but with the view of my attitude he told me to do what I thought best. Gregorio Aglipay is a relative of mine, a third cousin, a native of my town [Batac, Ilocos Norte], and I exercise great influence over him because he respects me.”

Ricarte then called on another prominent Ilocano, Isabelo de los Reyes, in Tondo where they, “had a long conference during which he tried to dissuade me from my intentions, picturing the situation of the country to me, assuring me the people will not respond. I insisted on my ideas and would not let Isabelo de los Reyes convince me, the conference terminating in this manner.”

Reading the above made me wonder why the fervor for independence seemed to have cooled except for Ricarte. Perhaps people wanted a break after the revolution and the Philippine-American War then belittled as the “Philippine Insurrection.” Maybe these veterans of two wars believed in the overweight William Howard Taft and expected the Philippines to be granted independence after a short period of training in American-style government.

Ricarte recounted a 10-minute meeting he had with Dr. Dominador Gomez thus: “Dr. Gomez showed himself surprised at my coming and after hearing the explanations I gave him of the purpose of my return from Hong Kong, he advised me not to carry them into effect because without the necessity of shedding blood, the independence of the country would be accomplished in three or four years since Taft had set up the doctrine of ‘the Philippines for the Filipinos,’ but as I expressed myself as not disposed to recede he advised me to return to Hong Kong since nothing could be accomplished, seeing that the Filipinos would not second me.”

One can only imagine the frustration Ricarte felt when nobody seemed interested in fighting against the US. He would get the same reception when he returned to the Philippines with the Japanese in 1941.

Maharlika – Samu't Sari

NMC ELECTION MONETH DEPOSA

A Northern Marianas College student casts his vote Wednesday for the 2010-2011 officers of the Associated Students of NMC. Antonio Tiples and Mario Calilong both ran unopposed for the president and vice president positions. Ki Young Kim is running for the treasurer seat.

CLEANING UP AFTER YOU CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Karen T. Cabrera of Mariana Islands Nature Alliance and Ray Alvarez of Docomo Pacific pose in front of the pile of trash that was left behind in one of the pavilions north of 13 Fishermen's Monument. Cabrera said she received a phone call from a concerned citizen about the trash. With the help of Alvarez, they cleaned up the area, removing trash from the mud puddles, mud piles, grass areas, etc. The trash collected ranged from beer bottles, cigarette butts, plastic bags, paper towels, and paper plates to other miscellaneous paper and plastic products that had been left lying around the pavilion from the previous night's event. The pavilion is a Docomo sponsored site.

GENEROUS DONATION CLARISSA V. DAVID

Saipan Seventh-Day Adventist School principal Michael Berglund gestures as he thanks the staff of Seventh-Day Adventist Clinic for their generous donation of $28,000 worth of scholarships for school year 2010-2011.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Virle Gayatin, accountant and public relations director for Saipan Seventh-Day Adventist School, second right, reads the plaque of appreciation presented to the Seventh-Day Adventist Clinic during a brief ceremony Wednesday morning. The dental clinic made a generous donation of $28,000 worth of scholarships.

SWEARING IN

Kamuela Enos, Debra T. Cabrera, Sefa Aina, and Daphne Kwok are all smiles as acting U.S. Solicitor General Neal Kaytal administers the oath of office during Tuesday's swearing in ceremony for the 17 members of the President's Advisory Commission on Asian American and Pacific Islanders. Sablan's nominee Dr. Debra T. Cabrera is the only person from a U.S. territory chosen to advise the President on policies affecting the AAPI community nationally.

U.S. Reps. Judy Chu (D-CA), Eni Faleomavaega (D-AS), and Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan (D-MP) were among the many dignitaries at the Congressional Auditorium at the U.S. Capitol Tuesday to witness the swearing in of the President's Advisory Commission on Asian American and Pacific Islanders. Sablan's nominee Dr. Debra T. Cabrera is one of the 17 persons chosen to advise the President on policies affecting the AAPI community nationally.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Advanced happy birthday greetings to Joanna T. Garcia, who will be celebrating her special day on Sept 26, 2010! Greetings come from her mom Jenny, Tita Marie, Tito Jun and Tita Del.

Happy 1st birthday to Maya Jae Cruz Jung! May God bless you and bless you with many more birthdays to come! We love you so much. Greetings come from your family.

9/11 COMMEMORATION CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

U.S. Rep. Madeleine Z. Bordallo is joined by Mayor Michael Bloomberg of New York City on the east steps of the U.S. Capitol for a ceremony on Sept. 15, 2010, to remember those who lost their lives during the attacks of Sept.11, 2001.

YoungStyle

NEW YORK (AP)—It's getting crowded in the race to succeed Zhu Zhu Pets as the next hot holiday toy.

Cuteness likely to rule the holiday toy roost

AP
This product image provided by Toys R Us, shows Squinkies, bottom, and the Cupcake Surprise Bake Shop, from Blip toys.

By MAE ANDERSON
AP Retail Writer

From plush dolls that harmonize to tiny people and animals stored in bubbles in toy vending machines, collectibility and cuteness are off the charts for this year's toys.

But with so many toys vying to win "Most Adorable," it remains to be seen if any will duplicate the runaway success of the Zhu Zhu Pets, toy hamsters that squeak, zoom around on wheels and sell for just $10.

For toy sellers, making the right picks early is crucial so they have the right mixture of toys at the right prices to lure gift givers to buy. The right bet can mean the difference between being in stock or out of the year's must-have playthings in a season that can account for the bulk of a toy retailer's annual profit.

Toys R Us, which came out with its "hot toy" list on Tuesday, is betting on a few contenders for the cute crown. Those include Blip Toys' Squinkies, tiny figures that fit inside a toy dispensing machines and come in 16 packs for $10; Mattel Inc.'s $12.99 Sing-a-ma-jigs, colorful plush dolls that harmonize; and $19.99 Pillow Pets, stuffed animals that convert into pillows.

The holiday season is crucial for toy makers, which can make up to half of their annual revenue during the fourth quarter. While toys are relatively recession-proof, because parents cut back on themselves before their children, they are still affected by a down economy.

The NPD Group, which does market research, said toy revenue was flat because of discounts during last year's holiday quarter, but the industry sold 4 percent more toys. For the year, revenue edged down 1 percent to $21.47 billion.

BMO Capital Markets analyst Gerrick Johnson expects that to reverse this year with a 2 percent gain for the year.

For the most part, toy prices will remain low, Needham & Co. analyst Sean McGowan said, because toys new this season were likely developed during the recession.

Rather than being made more expensively and then discounted, "they've just been engineered and sold at lower prices without sacrificing margins," he said.

But there are some signs that the total focus on low prices, ever-present over the past two years, is easing. Toys R Us plans to open 10 temporary stores for its higher-priced FAO Schwarz brand. And for the first time Hasbro is offering an "Ultimate Gifts" line, including a $299 Furreal Friends Butterscotch pony and a $119.99 Scrabble premier wood edition, online only.

Still, the majority of toys this year will be under $25, particularly collectibles.

Cepia LLC introduced new lines of Zhu Zhu pets this year, including hamster babies and a Kung Zhu set of hamsters that battle in an arena for boys. Still, most do not believe the lines be the stellar sellers they were last year.

"Supply had definitely caught up with demand on Zhu Zhu pets," Johnson said.

Hasbro is pushing Furry Frenzies, animals that skitter around, that retail for $8 each.

Another cute collectible: Zoobles. The line includes brightly patterned creatures that fold up into a ball but pop open when placed on top of a magnetized stand. They sell for $5.99 for one and $9.99 for a two-pack. They're made by Spinmaster, known for its Baukugan Battle Brawlers game that uses similar balls that pop open magnetically.

While it is too early to tell if there will be a true breakout this holiday season, analysts are already taking note that Zoobles have been scarce on store shelves.

"I was in a bunch of stores last week, and I couldn't find any (Zoobles) actually in stock," said McGowan.

Squinkies have been scarce as well. Bill Nichols, president and co-founder of Squinkies maker Blip Toys in Minnetonka, Minn., said he was inspired to create Squinkies by dispensing machines found in grocery and convenience stores. Squinkies toy dispensers double as play sets for Squinkies, which each come in a plastic bubble.

Nichols said it is exciting how fast the toys have caught on since their debut in August.

"Everybody has been saying we captured lightning in a bubble," he said.

Glance: Toys R Us' top 15 holiday toys

Here's a look at the top 15 toys that Toys R Us is betting will be holiday hits:

■ Calico Critters Luxury Townhouse by International Playthings: A doll house for Calico Critters dolls available exclusively from Toys R Us. $79.99.

■ Cuponk by Hasbro Inc: A game that combines electronic cups and ping-pong-like balls. $14.99.

■ Disney Princess & Me dolls by Jakks Pacific. Five 18-inch dolls of princesses from Disney movies, available exclusively at Toys R Us. $49.99.

■ Pillow Pets by Ontel Products Corp.: Plus stuffed animals that convert into a pillow by opening a Velcro strap. $19.99.

■ Leapster Explorer by LeapFrog: Electronic handheld device that has a library of 40 games and activities and other features. $69.99.

■ Disney/Pixar's "Toy Story 3" Imaginext Tri-County Landfill by Mattel's Fisher-Price. A playset that recreates the landfill scene from "Toy Story 3." $49.99.

■ Fast Lane Wild Fire RC by Toys R Us. A four-wheel remote control car over a foot tall. $89.99.

■ Imaginext Bigfoot the Monster by Fisher-Price. A Bigfoot that moves around, stomps and throws tantrums. $109.99.

■ Loopz from Mattel: Electronic memory game in which users try to repeat patterns of light and music. $34.99.

■ Minotaurus by Lego Systems Inc. A board game from Lego. $26.99.

■ Monster High Cleo DeNile and Deuce Gorgon doll set by Mattel: Dolls from Mattel's Monster High line. $39.99.

■ Nerf N-Strike Stampede ECS by Hasbro: Nerf blaster that can shoot Nerf darts up to 25 feet. $54.99.

■ Sing-a-ma-jigs by Mattel: Plush creatures that harmonize and sing together or apart. $12.99.

■ Squinkies Cupcake Surprise Bake Shop by Blip Toys: A play set that doubles as a toy vending machine for 9 included Squinkies, tiny toy people and animals. $22.99

■ Tomica Hypercity Mega Station Set by Tomy: A Toys R Us exclusive train set. $79.99. ***(AP)***

Riddle Card

1. Why is a wig like a lie?
2. Why is your hand like a hardware store?
3. What chasm often separates friends?
4. What islands are good to eat?
5. What tree is a kind of grasshopper?

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Answers: 1. Because it's a false hood. 2. Because it carries nails. 3. Sarcasm. 4. The Sandwich Islands. 5. Locust.

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

YOU'LL BE COOKING WITH GAS IF YOU SOLVE THESE FIVE!

BURN
BORN
BOON
BOOK
COOK

See if you can "stir up" the answers to these Ladder Puzzles in less than five minutes. In this type of problem, you are given a word that must be changed into another word in a series of moves. During each move, you must change one letter in the previous word to form a new word. In our example, we changed BURN to COOK in four moves. See if you can change the following words in four moves each.

1. MELT to HARD
2. OARS to MOVE
3. PARK to ZONE
4. WELL to DONE
5. ROCK to STAR

Answers:
1. MELT, MELD, HELD, HERD, HARD.
2. OARS, MARS, MARE, MORE, MOVE.
3. PARK, PORK, PORE, PONE, ZONE.
4. WELL, DELL, DOLL, DOLE, DONE.
5. ROCK, SOCK, SOAK, SOAR, STAR.

A WEIGHTY PROBLEM!

Don't strain your brain with this one. What kind of stones get lighter the longer you carry them around?

Answer: Hailstones. Since hailstones melt, the longer you carry them around, the lighter they will get.

Illustrated by David Coulson

IT'S MAGIC! Use the numbers 3 through 12 to fill in this Magic Number Square. The numbers in each horizontal row and vertical column should total 36. We've filled in six of the squares. The rest is up to you. Use trial-and-error – and a good eraser!

		16	1
15	2		
	18		
			17

[36]

Our answer: First row: 8, 11, 16, 1. Second row: 15, 2, 7, 12. Third row: 3, 18, 9, 6. Fourth row: 10, 5, 4, 17.

Strange BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

■ It was 20th-century French air force brigadier general and geopolitician—and bearer of the nickname "father of the French atom bomb"—Pierre Marie Gallois who made the following sage observation: "If you put tomfoolery into a computer, nothing comes out of it but tomfoolery. But this tomfoolery, having passed through a very expensive machine, is somehow ennobled and no one dares criticize it."

■ Gravity makes you shorter. It's true; gravity compresses your spine—in a weightless environment, you would be 2 to 3 inches taller than you are here on Earth.

■ You might be surprised to learn that the first ceiling fan was introduced way back in the 1860s. The lack of electricity was no deterrent; the device was powered by a stream of running water.

■ When the bubonic plague, more commonly known as the Black Death, was at its peak in Europe in the 14th century, a wide variety of remedies was prescribed, including smoking tobacco, bringing spiders into the household, inhaling the stench from a latrine, sitting between two large fires, drinking red wine in which new steel had been cooled, and bathing in goat urine.

■ Those who study such things say that women are better at identifying smells than men are.

■ In 1994, Singapore banned the importation and sale of chewing gum. Ten years later, lawmakers added a revision: Gum that has "therapeutic value" is now allowed.

■ Over the past year, in the United States lottery sales have increased by a whopping $1 billion.

■ Human skin is about 70 percent water, and the human brain is 80 percent water.

■ ■ ■

Thought for the Day: "All living souls welcome whatever they are ready to cope with; all else they ignore, or pronounce to be monstrous and wrong, or deny to be possible."—George Santayana

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MAGIC MAZE

SOMETHING'S BEEN REMOVED

X	G	C	Z	W	T	Q	T	N	J	G	D	A	X	U
R	P	M	U	T	S	O	O	L	S	J	G	D	A	X
V	S	P	N	N	O	K	D	S	I	F	C	A	X	V
S	S	Q	L	F	K	O	E	L	J	H	E	C	A	X
V	T	H	E	R	P	L	L	U	N	L	J	P	H	F
D	B	R	A	Y	E	D	I	X	D	V	T	I	D	R
B	A	L	D	V	P	D	E	M	M	I	R	T	E	O
B	M	K	E	E	E	I	V	L	M	G	S	T	N	E
D	B	E	D	C	W	D	N	Z	E	I	X	E	U	W
U	L	T	A	R	Q	O	U	O	N	E	K	D	R	L
S	J	F	I	G	F	D	M	N	C	A	P	S	P	Y

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Bald	Nude	Residue	Trimmed
Barefoot	Peeled	Shaved	Unleaded
Decaf	Pitted	Skim milk	Unveiled
Mowed	Pruned	Sleeveless	

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GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

DIFFICULTY: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

	–		x		25
+		x		÷	
	+		x		16
+		+		x	
	–		x		8
24		20		20	

1 2 4 5 6 7 7 8 9

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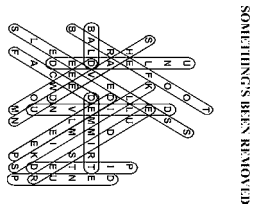
MAGIC MAZE ANSWER



GO FIGURE ANSWER

	20		20		24
8	4	x	6	–	8
	x		+		+
16	1	x	7	+	9
	÷		x		+
25	5	x	2	–	7

Dogs, dogs, dogs

As we swing into fall, you may be looking for more dog-training information or a bit of canine-related entertainment to go along with the change of seasons. Here are a few books that might catch your interest.

"51 Puppy Tricks" (Quarry Books, $18.99) was published late last year, but just recently crossed my desk. It's a fun book that teaches both basic behavioral-training techniques and tricks that most puppy training manuals don't dare to tackle. Written by Kyra Sundance, who trains acrobatic stunt dogs and has a couple of other dog-training manuals under her belt, this is a colorful, informative book loaded with photographs and detailed breakdowns of tricks for puppies up to 2 years of age.

"Oh My Dog" by Beth Ostrosky Stern, with Kristina Grish (Simon & Schuster, $25.99) is for owners or potential dog owners looking for a general care and training manual. The 512-page book covers pet selection and potential costs, helping a new puppy settle in, and training, diet and health tips. Stern is perhaps better known as a television personality and as Howard Stern's wife, but she's also a spokeswoman for North Shore Animal League America (a no-kill animal rescue and adoption organization) and is involved with other rescue organizations.

"Small Dog, Big Dog" by Barbara Karant (Gallery Books, $25) is a beautifully photographed collection of dogs of all sizes. More than 180 dogs representing 60 different breeds and ages from 6 to 14 years old grace the full-color pages. This one will hold a place on your coffee table and keep charming you.

■ ■ ■

Have a question about your pet? Contact Sam at ask@pawscorner.com, or write to Paw's Corner, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. And visit www.pawscorner.com for more information and resources!

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Rain stick imitates sounds of nature

I love toys that imitate nature, like rain sticks. They were originally made out of old dried cactus to create the sound of gentle falling rain, but you can make your own rain stick at home with your kids and their friends using simple materials from your recycle bin, desk drawer and pantry.

The sound it makes it so wonderful that your kids will be mesmerized ... and dry! Whether you are hosting a jungle-theme birthday party this fall, or simply inviting kids over to play, they'll enjoy making their own toy and letting a little rain fall into their lives.

Here's what you'll need for each rain stick:

■ A standard cardboard paper-towel tube
■ Construction paper, wrapping paper, wallpaper or adhesive-backed paper in tropical patterns for covering the tube
■ Glue (optional)
■ Stickers, paint and brush (optional)
■ 1 plastic pint-size strawberry basket cut into 8 pieces
■ 2 tablespoons uncooked rice
■ 2 cutout paper circles to fit over the outside of both ends of the tube (2 cupcake baking cups also work well)
■ Sturdy tape

Here's the fun:

1. You'll want to begin by creating the inside spine. Twist, turn and insert the berry basket pieces into the tube to fill the inside space from end to end. Use a dowel or wooden spoon handle to aid in scrunching them inside.

2. Cover one end with a paper circle, and tape securely in place.

3. Measure and pour the rice into the tube. Cover the open end with a paper circle taped securely in place.

4. Now it's time to decorate the outside of the tube. Measure and cut the paper to size and attach with tape or glue if not using adhesive-backed paper. Add stickers, paper cut-outs or paint your own designs. A tropical look is always nice with lots of green leaves. Or, maybe just a big sun to fool an unsuspecting friend. She'll pick it up, turn it over and "whoooosh"—a sunny rainstorm!

5. To use, hold the rain stick in a vertical position and slowly turn it upside down. Listen to the soothing sounds of the rice trickling down. Now you can bring a soft comforting rain inside.

Extra tip: If your child says, "I think it sounds sooo nice," enjoy a conversation about sounds using descriptive adverbs and adjectives. "It's shimmering!" "It feels so gentle!" "Everything is lightly falling." Your child's words might sound as lovely as the rain stick ... if not more so.

Note: Due to small parts, this activity is appropriate for children 4 and older.

Extra tip: Step-by-step photos may be found in the "Make a Rain Stick With Kids" photo album on the Donna's Day Fan page on Facebook.

■ ■ ■

Donna Erickson's award-winning series "Donna's Day" is airing on public television nationwide. To find more of her creative family recipes and activities, visit www.donnasday.com and link to the NEW Donna's Day Facebook fan page. Her latest book is "Donna Erickson's Fabulous Funstuff for Families."

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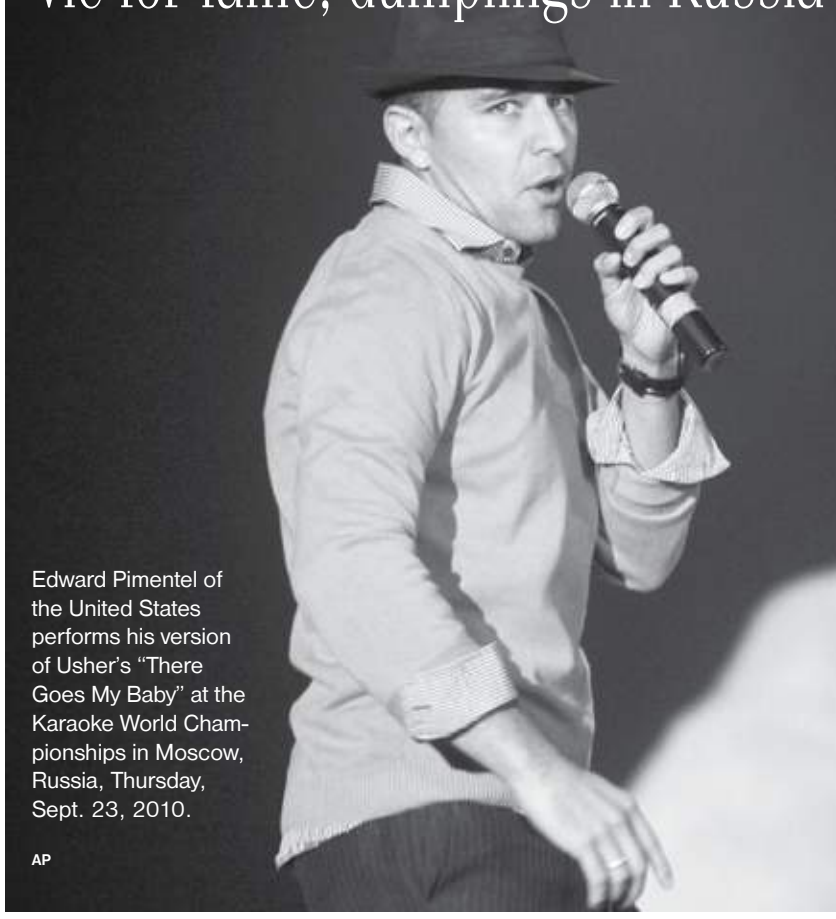
Life & Style

Karaoke champs
vie for fame, dumplings in Russia



Edward Pimentel of the United States performs his version of Usher's "There Goes My Baby" at the Karaoke World Championships in Moscow, Russia, Thursday, Sept. 23, 2010.

AP

MOSCOW (AP)—The winner of the Karaoke World Championships may not achieve world fame, but at least he or she won't have to worry where the next meal is coming from—the top prize is 1 million Russian dumplings.

With an unusual purse like that, it's clear that karaokists retain a sense of humor about a pursuit as derided as it is popular. But they're also serious enough about it to have traveled from as far away as Australia and Nigeria for a three-day battle-of-the-no-bands in a Moscow banquet hall.

The first night of the competition Thursday seems to show that karaoke is at a tipping point. It's gone far beyond caterwauling in front of a group of sozzled buddies and regretting it the next morning; most of those on stage here have serious pipes and carefully worked-out moves. Yet it retains the casual camaraderie of a barroom at midnight.

"It's a contest, yes, but it's more like a family," said Atte Hujanen, managing director of the Finland-based KWC Organization that is the equivalent of a sports governing body.

One woman's rendition of "Vogue" proved his point. Imagine Madonna if she'd never been to a gym, moved awkwardly and dressed like a diplomat. Still, the applause was warm, cameras flashed and no journalists seemed inclined to ask if the performance was intended ironically.

Karaoke actually seems to be one of the world's few genuine irony-free zones. The performers don't go for modernist mumbling or cryptic lyrics—they love to belt it out and they go for songs with heart-on-the-sleeve words. The show began with a group rendition of that apogee of bathos "We Are The World" and a probably inevitable version of "My Way" occurred not long thereafter.

Hujanen posited that it's this penchant for intensity that makes karaoke especially appealing in propriety-intensive countries such as Japan, where it originated, and his homeland, where six of the eight world championships have been held.

"People in Japan and Finland, it's in our nature that we're pretty shy," he said. With karaoke, "we can sing a heartbreaking ballad and then shut up again."

It's also liberating for serious performers because it doesn't require them to pursue a particular genre or artistic vision, as they would if they were part of an actual band, said American contestant Edward Pimentel, a technician for a cellular phone company in Albuquerque.

"The places I go to have 20,000 songs. I can change every single night," he said. "I can do whatever."

They can also choose to look whatever. The show Thursday had the sartorial variation of a good neighborhood bar—some men with snap-brim hats looking like dudes on the make, some in sneakers and untucked shirts looking like they'd stopped in for a cold one after a long shift at a gas station.

But the emotions were higher for the singers than in a bar, said Tami Marie, also of Albuquerque, a standout with a searing version of Pink's "Misery."

"Here, you feel like a real star. ... I feel so blessed," she gushed.

However, the most gushing person to take the stage arguably wasn't a performer at all, but the Russian organizer of the competition, Alexander Shamaev.

"The goal for us is the unification of the entire planet under the banner of karaoke," he declared. "We hope it will become the most massive sport on the planet."

The competition concludes Saturday with the final round after two days of preliminaries. The judges will choose one winner of each gender, and the audience will vote on which of all the contenders deserves the dumplings provided by one of the championship's sponsors.

Pimentel's not in it for that kind of dough. Asked what he would do if he won that prize, it was the first time—on or offstage—that he was lost for words.

Jewels owned by Wallis Simpson on show before sale

LONDON (AP)—Sotheby's is taking jewels once owned by American socialite Wallis Simpson—and the king who gave up his British crown for her—on an international tour before offering them at auction.

The brooches, bracelets and other gems are on display in London from Thursday to next Wednesday, followed by stops in Hong Kong, Moscow, New York and Geneva.

The 20 pieces are expected to fetch 3 million pounds ($4.7 million) when they are sold Nov. 30.

They belonged to Simpson and King Edward VIII, who abdicated to marry the twice-divorced 40-year-old in 1937.

Their relationship caused a scandal that culminated when the king made an abdication broadcast to the nation in December 1936, declaring "I have found it impossible... to discharge my duties as king as I would wish to do without the help and support of the woman I love."

They became the Duke and Duchess of Windsor and lived out their lives largely in exile from Britain. Edward's younger brother—father of Queen Elizabeth II—succeeded him as George VI.

The jewels, many specially commissioned and given as gifts from one to the other, chart the course of the couple's decades-long romance and reflect the duchess' innovative style.

They include an onyx and diamond Cartier bracelet in the shape of a panther; a jewel-encrusted flamingo clip glittering with rubies, sapphires, emeralds, citrines and 102 diamonds; and a heart-shaped emerald, ruby and diamond brooch with the initials W.E.—Wallis and Edward—commissioned by the duke for the couple's 20th wedding anniversary in 1957.

David Bennett, head of Sotheby's jewelry for Europe and the Middle East, said the collection represents "the most important jewelry collection put together in the 20th century."

The items were last sold in 1987, as part of a Sotheby's auction that fetched $50 million, still a record for a jewelry collection. Sotheby's would not disclose the identity of the current seller.

The story of Edward and Mrs. Simpson continues to fascinate, and is currently being turned into a movie, "W.E.," directed by Madonna.

A Sotheby's employee pose with a 1957 emerald, ruby and diamond brooch on display at the auction house in London, Thursday, Sept. 23, 2010.

AP

Julianne Moore thrilled with 'Freckleface' musical

NEW YORK (AP)—Julianne Moore is tickled pink about a glowing early review of a new musical based on her "Freckleface Strawberry" children's book.

Then again, it was from her daughter.

The actress recently took 8-year-old Liv to a performance of "Freckleface Strawberry: The Musical" and was delighted to discover that she didn't once have to bribe her daughter with sweets to stay still.

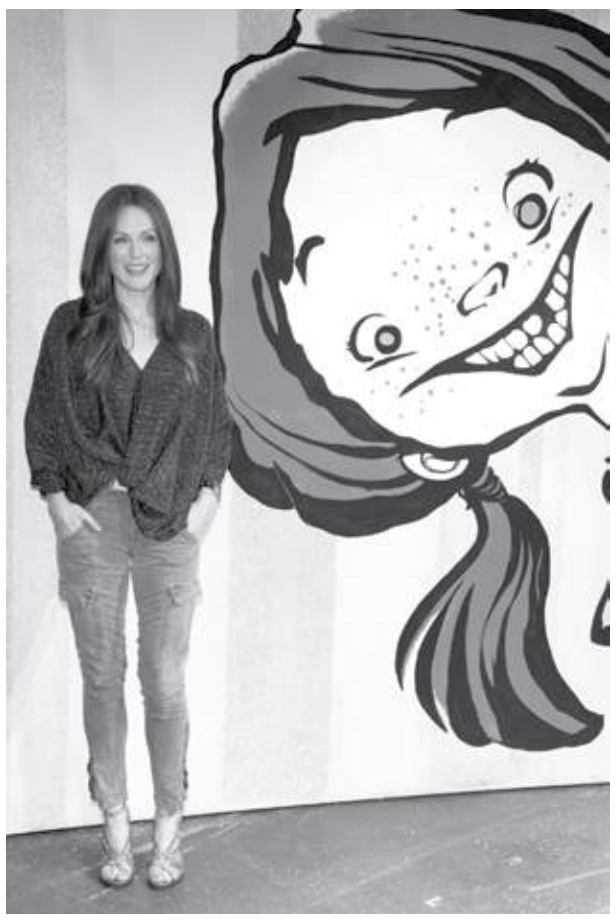
"When kids watch shows, they're not very quiet. Usually when I bring my kids to a musical, whenever there's a ballad, they ask for more candy," Moore said Thursday. "She didn't turn to me once."

The off-Broadway musical is adapted from Moore's best-selling adventures of a 7-year-old relentlessly teased by her schoolmates for having bright red hair and freckles, something Moore knows a lot about.

"I think what they did is absolutely charming," she said. "It's not so easy. I mean, it's a picture book. It's a small book. To make it into a show that lasts an hour and a half and maintain the message—a very simple, childhood message—I think is pretty phenomenal."

Now showing at New World Stages, the show features a cast of seven adult professionals and officially opens Oct. 1. The music and lyrics were written by Gary Kupper, with a book by Kupper and Rose Caiola.

Caiola, who runs the Manhattan Youth Ballet as well as the Manhattan Movement & Arts Center, got the project up and running when she came across Moore's first book and thought it would be perfect to workshop with children. To mount it as a real theatrical event, she decided to cast adults, including Hayley Podschun ("Pal Joey," "Hairspray") as Strawberry.



AP

Actress Julianne Moore, author of the children's book "Freckleface Strawberry", attends a press event for the new off Broadway show "Freckleface Strawberry The Musical" in New York, Thursday, Sept. 23, 2010.

Moore, the 49-year-old star of such adult dramas as "A Single Man," "Boogie Nights" and "Hannibal," has tried to let the producers mount their adaptation without too much interfering.

"They've been incredibly receptive to all of my notes," she says. "I certainly never expected it to be a production of this scale."

Caiola said Moore's tweaks have helped: "She's really agreed with most of what we've done. Little notes here and there have helped to make the show better," she said. "She gave me this wonderful opportunity and I want to make her happy."

The musical, which includes original songs such as "I Can Be Anything" and "Different," stays close to the message Moore hopes to convey in her books: Be happy being who you are.

"There are things about yourself that you're not going to like necessarily. What we hope will go away as children doesn't always go away," said the actress, who has finished work on a third "Freckleface" book and plans a fourth. "I hoped my freckles would go away. They didn't. They're still here. I still don't like them, but they don't loom as large a problem in my life any more because I have other things that are more important."

Jolie picks Bosnian actress for lead role

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP)—Angelina Jolie has chosen young Bosnian actress Zana Marjanovic for the lead role in her directorial debut—a wartime love story between a Bosnian woman and a Serbian man.

Marjanovic told the Associated Press on Thursday that the screenplay was "fabulous" and she could not wait to start shooting with such a "great actress and humanist" like Jolie.

Marjanovic

The 27-year-old actress said she was on her way to Hungary to prepare for the film shoot beginning later this year and take place both in Hungary and Bosnia.

Jolie has visited Bosnia twice this year—as UNHCR good will ambassador and to scout for her movie—and had promised she would cast only actors from the region. Marjanovic became known after her prominent role in award winning "Snow" by Bosnian director Aida Begic.

Stephen Colbert to testify on Capitol Hill

NEW YORK (AP)—The United Farm Workers union says Stephen Colbert (kohl-BEHR') will visit Capitol Hill on Friday to testify at a U.S. House committee hearing on farm workers who are illegal immigrants.

Colbert's will appear as an expert witness. He has focused on the UFW's "Take Our Jobs" campaign on his nightly show on Comedy Central, "The Colbert Report." He had spent a day last month picking vegetables on a farm in upstate New York.

Colbert

The UFW launched the "Take Our Jobs" campaign in June to invite U.S. citizens and legal residents to replace illegal immigrants who work on farms.

The hearing is before the House Judiciary Committee's immigration subcommittee.

Portia de Rossi takes wife Ellen Degeneres' name

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Portia de Rossi has officially taken wife Ellen Degeneres' last name. A Los Angeles Superior Court commissioner granted De Rossi's request to take the last name of her partner during a closed hearing Thursday. The television star will now legally be known as Portia Lee James DeGeneres.

The couple was married in August 2008. The 37-year-old Australian-born actress asked for the name change last month.

Neither woman attended the hearing. They married during the five-month window in which gay marriage was legal in California.

Portia DeGeneres is well-known for her roles on several television series, including "Ally McBeal," "Arrested Development" and "Better Off Ted."

In this Aug. 30, 2009 file photo, Ellen DeGeneres, right, and Portia de Rossi arrive at the Daytime Emmy Awards in Los Angeles.

AP

Sesame Street pulls Katy Perry from show

NEW YORK (AP)—Katy Perry's cleavage is fine for Russell Brand—not so for Elmo and Sesame Street. The children's show says it won't air a taped segment featuring the "California Gurls" singer and Elmo. The pop star—who is known for her risque outfits—wore a gold bustier top as she sang a version of her hit "Hot N Cold." But some felt it was too revealing for the kid set.

Sesame Street said in a statement Thursday that in light of the "feedback we've received" after the bit was aired on YouTube, they won't include it on the show. While the show said it was still available on YouTube, it had been removed by the official Sesame Street YouTube channel. Other versions on YouTube have generated thousands of hits.

A rep for Perry said Thursday that Perry enjoyed her time with Sesame Street and Elmo, and pointed out that the clip is still online on her website.

AP

In this publicity image released by Sesame Workshop, singer Katy Perry, left, is shown with Elmo performing in a music video called "Hot and Cold" about opposites on "Sesame Street."

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Plans under way for 'Strictly Ballroom' on stage

NEW YORK (AP)—Plans for a stage musical adaptation of the cult film "Strictly Ballroom" are cha-cha-cha-ing along. Producers of the project say film director Baz Luhrmann plans to begin workshopping the book and music from his 1992 movie in December in Sydney. The location of the show's premiere and other details weren't announced Thursday. "Strictly Ballroom" tells the story of two dancing misfits who team up to try to win a ballroom contest. John "Cha Cha" O'Connell choreographed the original film and will return for the stage version. Luhrmann's other movies include a version of "Romeo and Juliet" starring Leonardo DiCaprio and Claire Danes and "Moulin Rouge," with Nicole Kidman and Ewan McGregor.

Nancy Wilson files for divorce from Cameron Crowe

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Court records show rocker Nancy Wilson has filed for divorce from writer-director Cameron Crowe after more than 20 years of marriage. The Heart singer-guitarist cited irreconcilable differences for the divorce, which was filed Sept. 16. The court filings say Wilson and Crowe separated in 2008. They were married in 1986 and have twin 10-year-old sons. Wilson is seeking joint custody. Crowe is known for directing films such as "Jerry Maguire" and "Say Anything."

Publicist: Gloriana's Cheyenne Kimball is engaged

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—A publicist confirms that Cheyenne Kimball of the country group Gloriana is engaged. Kimball used the band's Twitter account Thursday to announce the news: "Rumors are true! Casey Twist and I are engaged! He's the best!" Kimball's publicist Tree Paine confirmed the report. Twist also tweeted about the engagement: "I know a certain Cheyenne who is soon to be the future Mrs. Twist. We are engaged! Love that girl!!" Twist is a singer-songwriter from Siloam Springs, Arkansas. Gloriana's debut single "Wild at Heart" is R.I.A.A. certified gold, with a half-million copies sold. T

Suddenly squeamish boyfriend puts the kibosh on kissing

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend recently started turning away when I try to kiss him. When I asked him why, he explained that he has developed into a "germaphobe."

In the beginning of our relationship we never had this problem. What is happening?

NEVER BEEN KISSED, LATELY

DEAR NEVER: Your boyfriend may be embarrassed to tell you that your breath is unpleasant. Or he may be trying to distance himself romantically. I recommend you ask him directly if either of these could account for the change in his behavior. If the answer is no and he really has developed a phobia about germs, then you'll have to decide if a kissless romance is enough for you.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I have this friend, "Miranda." We share a lot of interests and I think we have the potential to be something amazing. I'm not a shy guy, but when I'm around her, I can't put my thoughts into words.

We will graduate from high school this year, and I'm afraid to lose touch with her and blow my chances of making our friendship progress. Any advice on what to do would be wonderful.

MISSING OUT IN SAN DIEGO

DEAR MISSING OUT: At this point in your lives it would be premature to declare undying love. But it would be nice if you told Miranda that you think she's a special person and you'd like to stay in touch regardless of what directions your lives take you. That's a nonthreatening, huge compliment. And even if you haven't dated, she may be open to the idea of keeping up the contact. You'll never know if you don't try.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My husband of 20 years has always exaggerated and embellished things. It doesn't matter what subject, the unvarnished version is never good enough.

The other day we "discussed" why it takes my son and me only 15 to 20 minutes to get to a nearby town, while he is adamant that it takes him a half-hour to 45 minutes. Mind you, this is driving the same route and obeying the same speed limits. I asked him how that could be. His answer? "Because you guys drive the SUV and I drive the little Ford Festiva."

Huh? I'm no brainiac, but how can the size of the vehicle make that much difference when you're going the same route and speed?

EXASPERATED IN BURBANK, WASH.

DEAR EXASPERATED: It can't. And after 20 years of marriage to your husband, you should know better. (Could he be making a pit stop?)

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I work a night shift, and I am often still in my pajamas in the late morning.

If someone comes to my door I'm never certain if I should answer in my robe—which may make the caller uncomfortable—or not answer even though it's obvious that I'm home. What's the best thing to do besides getting dressed earlier?

JAMMIED UP IN IRON RIVER, MICH.

DEAR JAMMIED UP: If your caller is a friend, he or she should know what your work schedule is and understand why you are still in your pajamas. If the person is a workman, you might be more comfortable being dressed before the appointment. However, if you don't know who is at your door, you are under no obligation to open it to anyone, nor to offer any explanation about your attire.

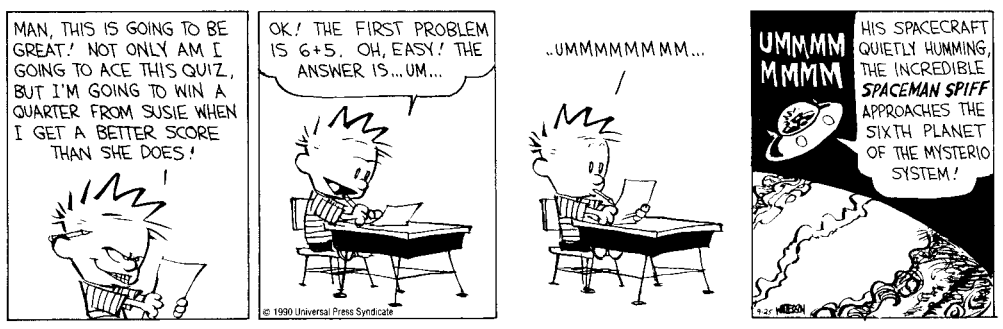
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


MAN, THIS IS GOING TO BE GREAT! NOT ONLY AM I GOING TO ACE THIS QUIZ, BUT I'M GOING TO WIN A QUARTER FROM SUSIE WHEN I GET A BETTER SCORE THAN SHE DOES!
OK! THE FIRST PROBLEM IS 6+5. OH, EASY! THE ANSWER IS... UM...
© 1990 Universal Press Syndicate
..UMMMMMMMM...
UMMMM MMMM
HIS SPACECRAFT QUIETLY HUMMING, THE INCREDIBLE SPACEMAN SPIFF APPROACHES THE SIXTH PLANET OF THE MYSTERIO SYSTEM!

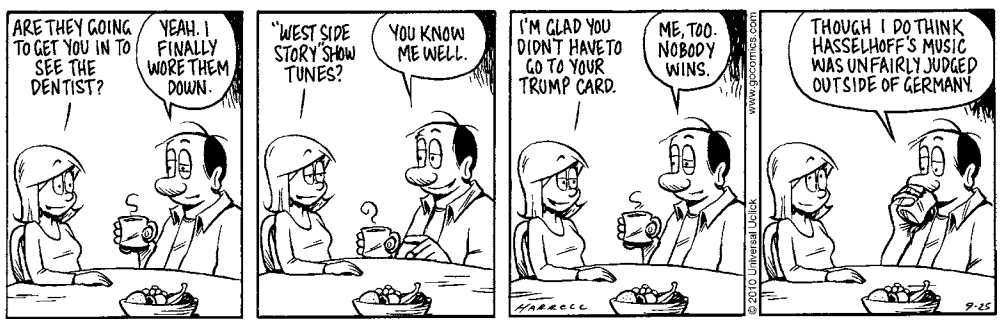
Garfield®

By Jim Davis

LIZ IS EVERYTHING I COULD EVER WANT IN A GIRL
I ONLY HOPE WITH ALL MY HEART AND SOUL THAT SHE FEELS THE SAME WAY ABOUT ME
© 2010 PAWS, INC. All Rights Reserved.
YOU DON'T MIND ME CONFIDING IN YOU LIKE THIS, DO YOU?
SAY WHAT?
Distributed by Universal Uclick
www.garfield.com
9-25 SATURDAY

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


ARE THEY GOING TO GET YOU IN TO SEE THE DENTIST?
YEAH. I FINALLY WORE THEM DOWN.
"WEST SIDE STORY" SHOW TUNES?
YOU KNOW ME WELL.
I'M GLAD YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO GO TO YOUR TRUMP CARD.
ME, TOO. NOBODY WINS.
THOUGH I DO THINK HASSELHOFF'S MUSIC WAS UNFAIRLY JUDGED OUTSIDE OF GERMANY.
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www.gocomics.com
9-25

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

THE A.C.L.U. IS GOING TOO FAR THIS TIME.
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www.gocomics.com
WHAT NOW?
THEY WANT TO TAKE "GOD" OUT OF GODZILLA MOVIE TITLES.
Glenn McCoy 9/25

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

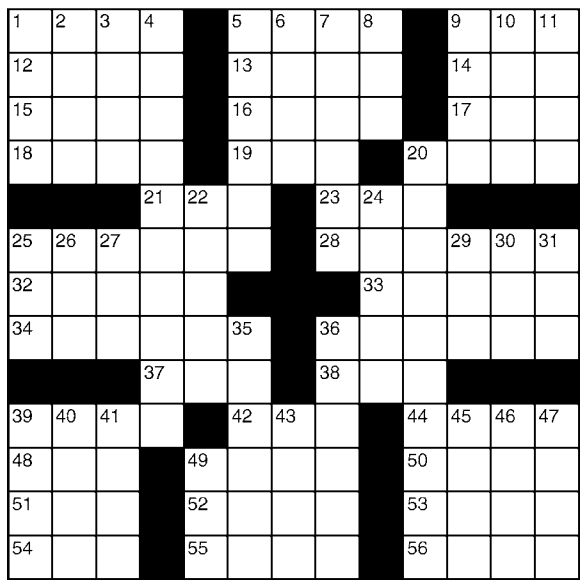
ACROSS
1 Experts
5 — Romeo
9 Evergreen type
12 Munro pseudonym
13 Unwilling to listen
14 Eggs
15 Pinnacle
16 Doorframe piece
17 Still
18 Spacecraft compartments
19 Faraway vessel?
20 Type selection
21 Hasbrouck —, NJ
23 GIs' entertainers
25 Lug
28 Daze
32 Civil War victors
33 Madison Square Garden, e.g.
34 Method
36 Closed a jacket
37 Geological period
38 Important numero
39 Estate recipient
42 Rocky peak
44 Luminary
48 Sprite
49 New Mexico tribe
50 Tropical tuber
51 "— Wiedersehen"
52 Clapton or Idle
53 Maze goal
54 Thickness
55 Belg. neighbor
56 Carnival attraction

DOWN
1 Now, on a memo
2 Mafia bigwig
3 Supplemented, with "out"
4 Revolver
5 Tweak
6 Canadian flag symbol
7 Noted
8 Langley, for ex.
9 It has its ups and downs
10 Tied
11 1/746 horsepower
20 Canopy bed
22 Photocopier need
24 Discoloration
25 Astronaut Grissom
26 Whatever amount
27 Fleur-de- —
29 Zing
30 Individual
31 "Awesome!"
35 Ripen
36 Swiss city
39 Jalopy
40 Hebrew month
41 Up in the air
43 "Pretty please with sugar —"
45 Urban transport
46 Saharan
47 Memorization method
49 Buddhist sect

Solution time: 27 mins.

D	A	H	■	F	R	O	M	■	R	A	M	P
O	W	E	■	I	O	W	A	■	E	V	I	L
H	E	A	D	L	A	N	D	■	B	E	N	E
■	■	D	E	E	D	■	■	A	O	R	T	A
M	O	L	A	R	■	O	C	H	O	■	■	■
O	V	I	D	■	S	M	O	O	T	H	I	E
L	E	N	■	A	P	E	R	Y	■	E	N	D
D	R	E	S	S	A	G	E	■	P	A	G	E
■	■	■	O	K	R	A	■	B	I	D	E	N
J	E	A	N	S	■	■	F	U	E	L	■	■
E	A	R	N	■	H	E	A	D	R	O	O	M
T	R	E	E	■	A	M	I	D	■	C	U	E
S	L	A	T	■	D	U	L	Y	■	K	I	X

Yesterday's answer 9-25



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Catherine Zeta-Jones, 41; Will Smith, 42; Heather Locklear, 49; Michael Douglas, 66

Happy Birthday: Partnerships will be important. This is a year to expand your knowledge and friendships and to look at new options. Incorporate new ideas and plans into your life and put an end to repeating the same old things. You are ready to move forward and must do everything in your power to be productive and progressive. Your numbers are 3, 10, 17, 25, 28, 33, 42

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Think outside the box, especially when it comes to emotional matters with either business or professional partners. Be fully prepared to utilize your skills to achieve the results you want with the people who can potentially change your life. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Line up what you want to do and get started and be persistent. Throw a little romance into the mix and you can have an enjoyable day with plenty of perks. Take care of your personal needs. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Be careful how you handle others. Don't volunteer too much of your time. You have added discipline right now, so focus more on self-improvement and making the changes that will help you move forward. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Something you do will spark an interest in marketing a talent you have. Socializing will lead to romance. Don't let negative people be the ones who grab your attention—avoid that sort of attitude. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Tie up loose ends or take care of money matters that can affect what you are and aren't able to do in the future. A troubled love life or relationship that didn't work may get a second chance. ✪✪✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): You need a change of scenery. Romance can be included in your day if you invite someone you love along for the ride. A positive change at home will allow you greater freedom to explore a potentially profitable hobby or pastime. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): You will only have yourself to blame if things start to spin out of control. Secure your position at home and within important relationships by working out any little problems that have arisen. You can use emotional tactics to make your point. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Making promises that may infringe on your time or cause a problem for someone who counts on you personally will leave you in a quandary. You may have to make some fast alterations to your plans. In the end, you will be a hero. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Pay your dues before you complain about what others are doing. Think before you say something you may regret and keep in mind that showing kindness and consideration will help you get a lot further ahead. ✪✪✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Show interest in what everyone is doing and be patient. Now is not the time to judge unless you want to be criticized for your own shortcomings. Adaptability, diversity and positive thought will lead others to look up to you. ✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Don't let love cost you emotionally, financially or personally. You have to plan your actions carefully and only offer what you can afford to part with. A diplomatic "no" will suffice. ✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): You can't lose if you discuss investments or take a look at an agreement that might need amending. Now is the time to either firm up or let go of whatever can influence your future legally, financially or contractually. Love is in the stars. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You have drive, determination and discipline and you fight for your beliefs. You are serious minded and strive for a secure and stable lifestyle.

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

			9					
		7	8			2		
	5			1			7	
7	6		3		1			
		8				1		
			2		4		9	8
	3			7			4	
		2			8	3		
					6			

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 9/25

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

1	4	6	2	3	7	9	8	5
9	8	2	6	5	1	4	7	3
3	5	7	8	9	4	1	6	2
4	6	9	3	8	5	7	2	1
8	7	1	4	2	9	5	3	6
5	2	3	7	1	6	8	4	9
7	9	4	5	6	2	3	1	8
2	3	5	1	7	8	6	9	4
6	1	8	9	4	3	2	5	7

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 9/24

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

HIGH HEELS THAT DON'T HURT YOUR FEET! **Solution: 8 letters**

W	R	G	P	L	A	T	F	Y	T	E	V	L	E	V
A	O	A	N	K	L	E	S	D	N	E	B	Ⓢ	X	I
L	E	L	E	I	T	N	O	S	A	E	S	Ⓖ	T	N
K	S	R	L	W	R	S	U	G	U	N	S	Ⓔ	E	S
I	A	S	U	I	E	P	U	M	P	S	C	Ⓛ	N	E
N	B	S	P	T	P	D	S	J	N	I	G	E	D	R
G	O	E	L	O	S	B	G	O	D	N	N	T	E	T
E	P	R	R	E	R	O	I	E	A	A	I	H	C	S
L	R	T	Z	A	D	T	P	C	S	M	T	G	N	E
A	E	I	N	E	C	O	Y	N	O	A	T	I	U	R
S	S	D	V	E	H	E	M	A	E	M	I	E	O	U
T	S	R	T	T	D	S	E	L	O	S	F	H	B	T
I	U	O	R	E	A	C	H	A	E	S	O	O	L	X
C	R	O	U	N	D	E	D	B	Y	M	O	O	R	E
P	E	S	S	E	N	T	F	O	S	S	H	I	F	T

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Adjust, Angle, Ankles, Balance, Base, Bend, Bounce, Brands, Care, Comfort, Curved, Dance, Elastic, Extend, Fitting, Height, Inserts, Leather, Legs, Loose, Models, Orthopedic, Pillow, Posture, Pressure, Protection, Pumps, Reach, Roomy, Rounded, Season, Shift, Size, Snug, Softness, Soles, Sporty, Spring, Suede, Support, Texture, Velvety, Walking, Wear, Wedges

Yesterday's Answer: Lacquer

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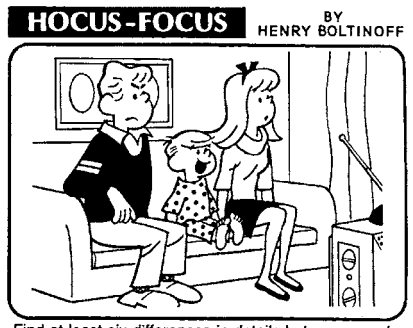
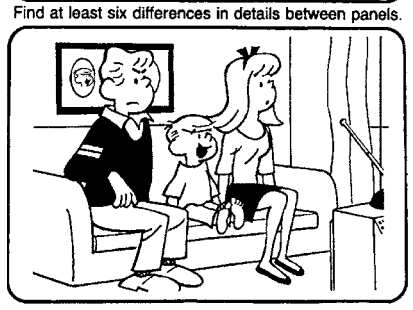
HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



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Differences: 1. Picture is different. 2. Pajamas are not dotted. 3. Girl's necklne is different. 4. Picture frame is black. 5. TV dials are missing. 6. Windowpanes are gone.

Wishing Well®

5	6	3	2	7	2	6	5	3	6	2	4	2
B	C	U	P	Y	R	H	E	N	O	O	S	F
3	2	6	2	8	2	3	5	6	7	2	5	6
B	E	O	S	B	S	O	O	S	O	I	P	E
2	3	2	6	7	2	7	6	5	2	4	5	6
O	U	N	W	U	A	A	I	E	L	T	N	S
8	2	3	8	3	2	3	5	8	3	7	2	6
E	S	N	T	D	T	E	T	I	D	R	A	E
2	4	2	5	6	4	5	7	3	8	7	5	2
B	A	I	O	L	R	C	E	S	D	N	H	L
7	5	3	2	6	2	5	7	3	2	4	3	8
O	A	U	I	Y	T	N	W	C	Y	T	C	Y
7	4	3	5	3	4	5	3	4	7	4	7	7
G	A	E	G	S	N	E	S	E	L	W	A	D

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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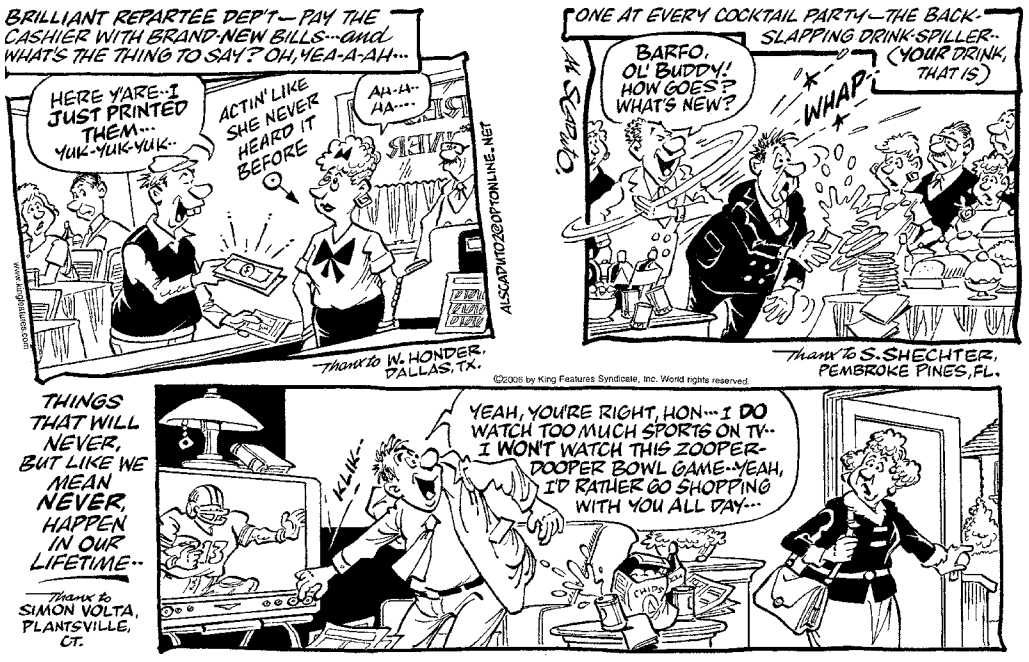
POPEYE
Hy EISMAN
YOU KNOW "GREEN" IS THE IN WORD THESE DAYS!
REALLY?
EVERYONE IS THINKING GREEN!
I SAW THE CUTEST GREEN DRESS TODAY...GREEN IS MY FAVORITE COLOR!
IT'S MY FAV'RIT TOO!
IT HAD A LITTLE GREEN THINGIE
SPINACH
AND A BIG GREEN WINGIE
WITH A GREEN DINGIE BINGIE
I DECIDED NOT TO BUY IT...
...BUT IT WAS FUN THINKING ABOUT!
YER RIGHT! THINKIN' KIN BE A LOTTA FUN!
POP

They'll Do It Every Time

by Al Scaduto


BRILLIANT REPARTEE DEP'T—PAY THE CASHIER WITH BRAND-NEW BILLS...and WHAT'S THE THING TO SAY? OH, YEA-A-AH...
HERE Y'ARE...I JUST PRINTED THEM.... YUK-YUK-YUK..
ACTIN' LIKE SHE NEVER HEARD IT BEFORE
AH-A-HA....
ALSCADUTO2@OPTONLINE.NET
Thanx to W. HONDER, DALLAS, TX.
ONE AT EVERY COCKTAIL PARTY—THE BACK-SLAPPING DRINK-SPILLER.. (YOUR DRINK, THAT IS)
BARFO, OL' BUDDY! HOW GOES? WHAT'S NEW?
WHAP!
Thanx to S. SHECHTER, PEMBROKE PINES, FL.
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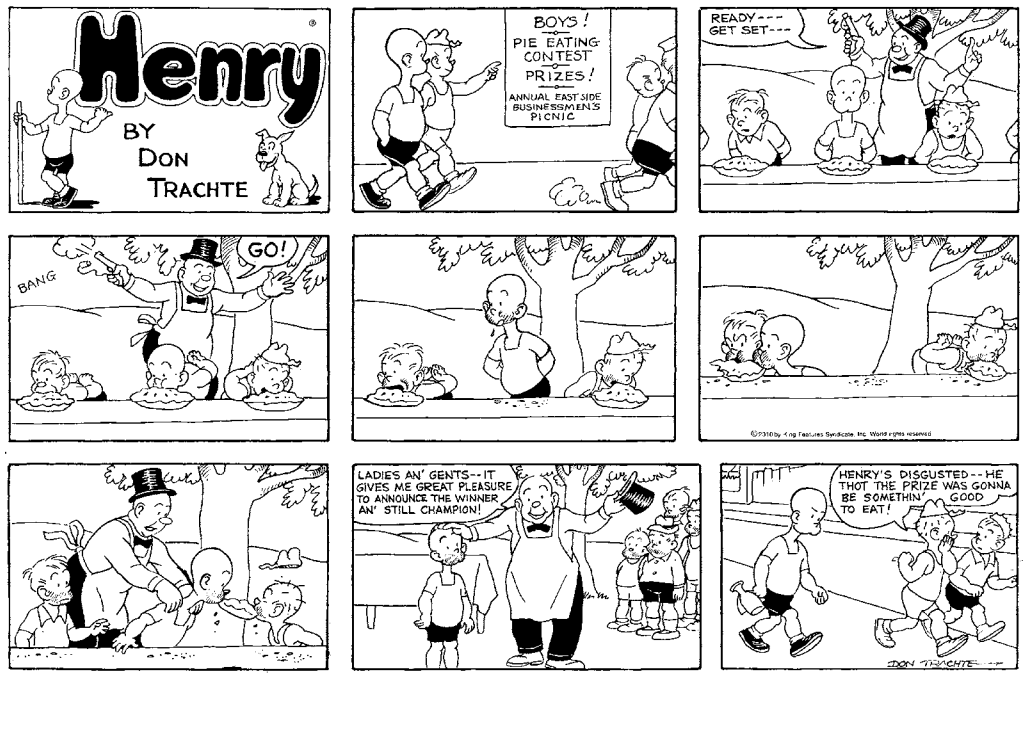
THINGS THAT WILL NEVER, BUT LIKE WE MEAN NEVER, HAPPEN IN OUR LIFETIME..
Thanx to SIMON VOLTA, PLANTSVILLE, CT.
KLIK
YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT, HON... I DO WATCH TOO MUCH SPORTS ON TV.. I WON'T WATCH THIS ZOOPER-DOOPER BOWL GAME--YEAH, I'D RATHER GO SHOPPING WITH YOU ALL DAY...


Henry
BY DON TRACHTE
BOYS! PIE EATING CONTEST PRIZES!
ANNUAL EAST SIDE BUSINESSMEN'S PICNIC
READY--- GET SET---
BANG
GO!
LADIES AN' GENTS--IT GIVES ME GREAT PLEASURE TO ANNOUNCE THE WINNER AN' STILL CHAMPION!
HENRY'S DISGUSTED--HE THOT THE PRIZE WAS GONNA BE SOMETHIN' GOOD TO EAT!
DON TRACHTE

Super Crossword

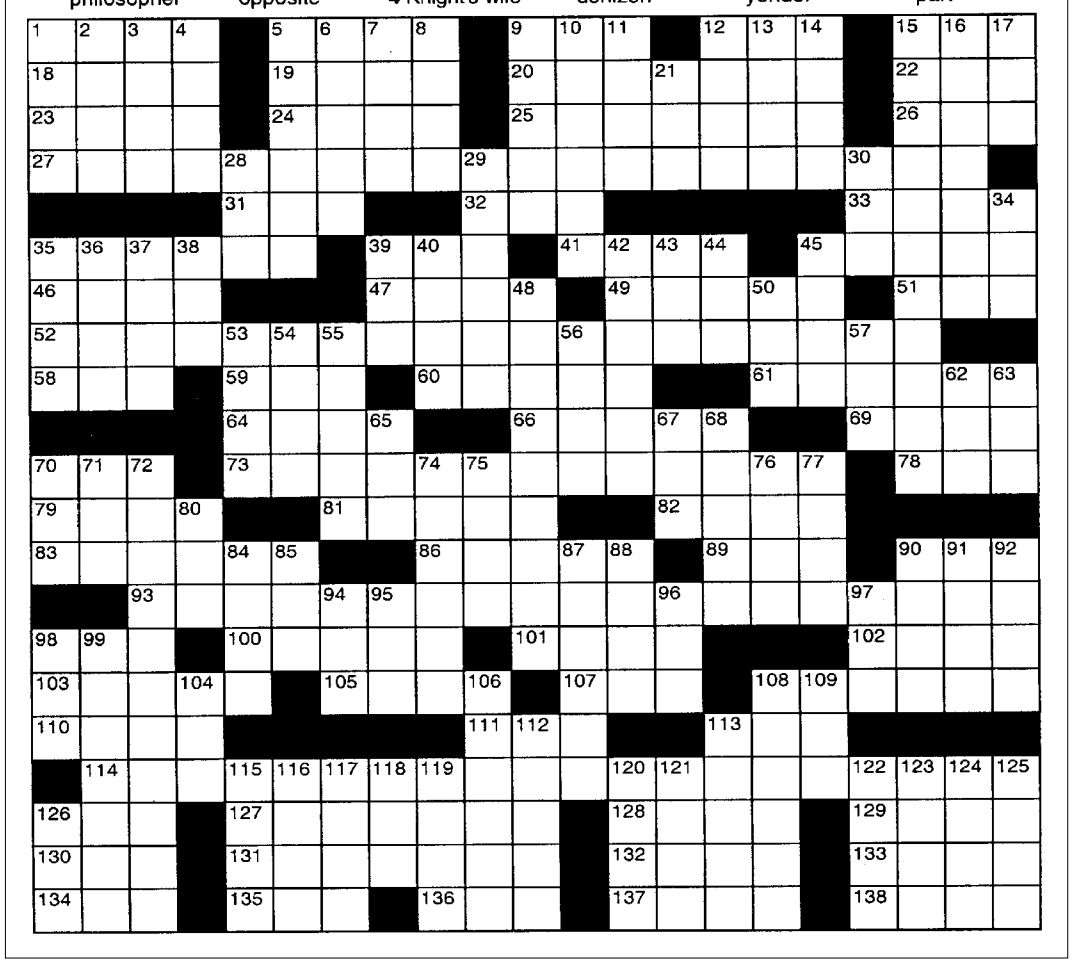
CAMP JINX

ACROSS

1 Obscene
5 Vino center
9 Hydrotherapy site
12 Advanced deg.
15 "The Screwtape Letters" monogram
18 Concept
19 An Everly brother
20 Shape
22 Chou En- —
23 "The King and I" setting
24 Bakery display
25 Supermodel Warren
26 Pantry pest
27 Camper's comment
31 Munch on a mango
32 Born
33 Tyrant
35 She got an A in literature
39 Slap on
41 Seafood selection
45 81 Across' river
46 — breve
47 Vientiane's nation
49 German philosopher
51 Transmit electronically
52 Camper's comment
58 Serling or Steiger
59 Troop grp.
60 "There — atheists in the foxholes"
61 Way up
64 "Man bites dog," e.g.
66 "You can — horse to . . ."
69 Hardware item
70 '70 Jackson 5 hit
73 Camper's comment
78 "— whiz!"
79 Baby bovine
81 Joan of Arc site
82 Perry's creator
83 Beethoven symphony
86 Delibes opera
89 — de la Cite
90 Mimic
93 Camper's comment
98 Honest name
100 Lucifer
101 Learning method
102 Weft's opposite
103 Remora's host
105 Musical symbol
107 Word form for "equal"
108 Amontillado, e.g.
110 Table d'—
111 — Cruces, NM
113 Cry of satisfaction
114 Camper's comment
126 Herd word
127 Esteemed
128 Geraint's lady
129 Praise passionately
130 Caravansary
131 Venezuelan river
132 "Heavens to Betsy!"
133 Congregational comeback
134 Order
135 Clerical abbr.
136 — diem
137 Say it isn't so
138 Ebb

DOWN

1 Actress Virna
2 Touch up the text
3 Disaccustom
4 Knight's wife
5 Enter the picture
6 Haberdashery buy
7 Row
8 "Casablanca" character
9 Tantrum
10 Western bands
11 Against
12 Ms. Falana
13 "To Sir with Love" singer
14 Pull
15 Taxonomist's job
16 "Evil Ways" group
17 Illuminated
21 Word with take or hang
28 Center of gravity?
29 Like some pools
30 Colorado native
34 Smith or Stout
35 Salon concern
36 Admiral Zumwalt
37 Coasted
38 Highlander's hat
39 Ginger —
40 "Star Trek" android
42 Dayton denizen
43 Aspin or Baxter
44 — trip
45 Open an envelope
48 Cave man?
50 Pulver's rank: abbr.
53 Paul of "Scarface"
54 Secondhand
55 "It's — Never" ('60 smash)
56 Lollapalooza
57 Large tub
62 Regret
63 Sault — Marie, MI
65 — -Cat
67 Casino cube
68 Lofty spaces
70 Parker of football
71 Saloon
72 Nearby
74 Louisiana university
75 Tolerate
76 "— Want for Christmas" ('50 tune)
77 Require
80 Fiver
84 Barrel
85 Alias initials
87 Certain Communist
88 Newts
90 Way over yonder
91 Engine sound
92 Discern
94 Catchall abbr.
95 Marchiano or Mineo
96 Rock's — Speedwagon
97 Be obligated
98 Hibachi residue
99 "— Junction" ('56 film)
104 Actor Stephen
106 Warm lining
108 Inferior
109 Producer Prince
112 Passion
113 Oriental
115 Adventurer Heyerdahl
116 Irritated
117 Part of UCLA
118 Negative prefix
119 Parachute invasion
120 Take into account
121 "Bus Stop" playwright
122 Tie
123 Dalai —
124 Kitchen appliance
125 Passed-on item
126 Pinafore part



Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. FAMOUS QUOTATIONS: What futurist author once said, "One of the definitions of sanity is the ability to tell real from unreal. Soon we'll need a new definition"?
2. SCIENCE: By how much does water expand when it freezes?
3. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a group of geese called?
4. TELEVISION: The daytime serial "General Hospital" is set in what city?
5. GEOGRAPHY: The island nation of Sri Lanka lies in which ocean?
6. MOVIES: How many Oscar nominations did "Titanic" receive?
7. MEASUREMENTS: How many pints are in a quart?
8. MATH: What is the top number of a fraction called?
9. DISCOVERIES: Who is credited with discovering vitamin D?
10. RELIGION: When did Vatican II begin and end?

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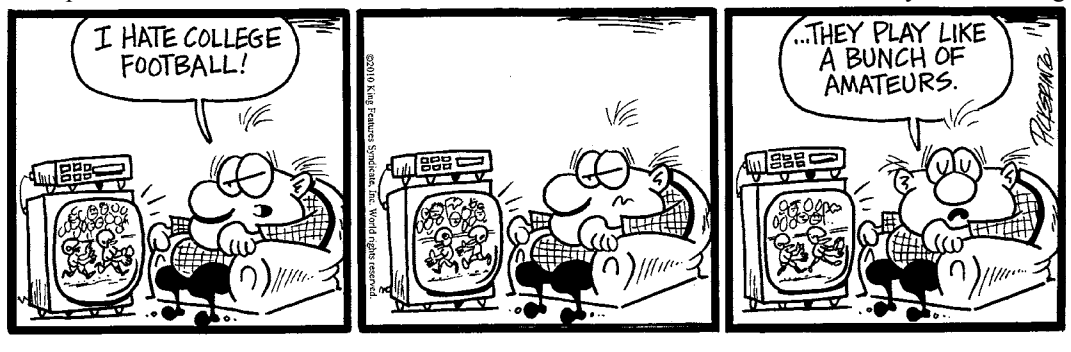
Answers

1. Alvin Toffler
2. 9 percent to 10 percent
3. A gaggle
4. Port Charles
5. Indian Ocean
6. 14
7. Two
8. The numerator
9. Edward Mellanby
10. 1962-65

Saturday's Answers

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



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• 3-Liner with picture	$24	$42
• 5-Liner with picture	$36	$57

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Classified Ads

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- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

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Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

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Find today's solution in this section

Source: Nelson expected to leave Warriors

By GREG BEACHAM
AP SPORTS WRITER

Coach Don Nelson is expected to part ways with the Golden State Warriors on Monday, an NBA source told The Associated Press, possibly ending the career of the league's victory leader.

The source spoke on condition of anonymity Thursday night because the surprising move by new team owner Joe Lacob likely won't be announced until the start of the Warriors' training camp next week.

The 70-year-old Nelson has a record 1,335 victories in 31 seasons coaching Milwaukee, Golden State, New York and Dallas. The former Boston forward won five championships largely as a sixth man with the Celtics, but he has never led a team to a title or even reached the NBA finals.

He passed Lenny Wilkens' NBA record of 1,332 wins on April 7, near the close of the fourth season in his second stint with the Warriors. Golden State finished 26-56 last season.

The source wasn't certain whether Nelson technically would resign or be fired, but the sometimes-litigious coach is expected to be paid the full $6 million he's owed for the final year of his contract.

ESPN.com first reported Nelson's departure. Assistant coach Keith Smart, the former player and Cleveland head coach long considered Nelson's heir apparent in Oakland, is expected to succeed Nelson.

Nelson and general manager Larry Riley didn't immediately return phone calls seeking comment. Riley was Nelson's assistant coach until the 2008-09 season, when he took over personnel decisions while the Warriors phased out top basketball executive Chris Mullin.

The Warriors waited until the final days before camp to make a major change under new owners Lacob and Peter Guber, who bought the club for a record $450 million in July from Chris Cohan, the long-reviled owner who's blamed by Bay Area fans for the franchise's absence from the playoffs in 15 of the past 16 seasons.

Nelson was hailed when Mullin hired his former coach to return to Golden State in 2006, and Nelson immediately led the Warriors into the postseason, where the eighth-seeded club upset the top-seeded Dallas Mavericks in 2007. Golden State then won 48 games but barely missed the playoffs after the 2007-08 season.

Golden State won just 55 games over the past two seasons while dismantling the core of the 2007 and 2008 teams led by Baron Davis and Stephen Jackson. Nelson was criticized for sticking with his style of run-and-run offense and little defense, while some young players got extensive minutes and others never got off the bench.

The sale is expected to be ratified by the NBA later this year, but Lacob and Guber already are heavily involved in running the Warriors.

Nelson is a three-time NBA coach of the year, but he's also the only coach with more than 1,000 career victories who hasn't been enshrined in the Basketball Hall of Fame.

AP

In this April 6, 2010 file photo, Golden State Warriors coach Don Nelson watches from the bench during the second half of an NBA basketball game against the Washington Wizards in Washington.

His teams won at least 50 games in 13 seasons, but he also went through several lows—notably a tumultuous 59-game stint with the Knicks in 1995-96.

Nelson began his career as coach and general manager of the Bucks in 1976, making the playoffs nine times in his 11 seasons. He took over the Warriors in 1988 and immediately installed the uptempo offense that led to the "Run T-M-C" era of exciting hoops led by Tim Hardaway, Mitch Richmond and Mullin.

But Nelson clashed with No. 1 overall draft pick Chris Webber and eventually left the Warriors during the 1994-95 season. After a short stint on Broadway, he took over the struggling Mavericks in 1998 and transformed them into a playoff team by his fourth season, surviving a bout with prostate cancer along the way.

Dallas reached the Western Conference finals in 2003, losing to the San Antonio Spurs. His parting with the Mavericks in March 2005 eventually turned acrimonious, with Nelson and owner Mark Cuban eventually getting involved in litigation over Nelson's compensation.

Jets owner says Edwards let himself, team down

FLORHAM PARK, N.J. (AP)—Woody Johnson had strong words for Braylon Edwards when he met with him following the New York Jets wide receiver's drunken-driving arrest Tuesday morning.

"I just shared with him my feelings," the Jets owner said Thursday. "I told him exactly what I'm telling you: 'This is not acceptable, Braylon. I'm disappointed. You let yourself down. You let the team down.'"

Edwards was arraigned on drunken-driving charges Tuesday after a breath test showed he had a blood-alcohol level twice the legal limit when he was stopped on Manhattan's West Side, prosecutors said. Edwards apologized to the team, fans and his family on Wednesday.

"This is a serious thing to be accused of, so I'm sorry that it happened to one of our guys," Johnson said, addressing the issue publicly for the first time. "Particularly when we've done a lot to address this particular issue because it does occur in professional sports, as it does in real life."

Johnson said he has spoken to Edwards "three or four times" since the incident and the wide receiver has shown remorse. The team determined that Edwards would be active for New York's next game Sunday night against Miami, but how much he plays would be up to coach Rex Ryan.

Ryan would not comment on the matter Thursday, but said he had a good idea of how much Edwards would play.

Due to the rules of the collective bargaining agreement, any punishment the Jets would dole out other than what the NFL eventually decides could violate the CBA. That means the Jets could not suspend or deactivate him without risking a violation. Keeping him active and not playing him could also be perceived as punishment.

"He's not going to start and I think it's about as a significant thing as you can do to a starter, a guy that considers himself in that respect," Johnson said.

He added that the Jets looked into previous similar cases before making their decision, saying there is no precedent to take a stand and deactivate a player.

"That's about as severe an action as I've seen," Johnson said. "Most teams have let the legal process take place. This has happened before. We hope it doesn't happen again here or elsewhere, for that matter."

Johnson also responded to criticism from fans and media that Edwards is getting off easy by the team for only losing a start.

Stern advises Arenas to stay mum on gun conviction

WASHINGTON (AP)—Interested in hearing Gilbert Arenas describe the lessons he learned from serving time in a halfway house? Don't hold your breath.

NBA commissioner David Stern has advised Arenas and the Washington Wizards not to talk about the former All-Star's felony gun conviction, and the Wizards say that's fine with them.

"The commissioner spoke to Gilbert," NBA spokesman Tim Frank said Thursday. "His message was: 'You've paid your price, you're back in good standing, and don't feel obligated to talk about the past.'"

Arenas has not spoken publicly since he was sentenced in March to one month in a halfway house and two years of probation after pleading guilty to felony gun possession. Arenas brought four guns to the Wizards locker room in December after getting into an argument with a teammate over a card game.

Arenas was also suspended by Stern for the final 50 games of last season.

New Wizards owner Ted Leonsis has talked about the need for Arenas to reintroduce himself to the community so that fans can embrace him again, but that will apparently not include any reflection or explanation about the series of events that transformed him from marketable hero to franchise embarrassment in a matter of weeks.

Arenas is expected to meet with reporters on Monday as part of the team's media day on the eve of training camp.

"The commissioner advised and suggested that Gilbert, the Wizards and Ted look forward and not look back, and Ted agreed with that advice and suggestion," Wizards spokesman Kurt Kehl said.

Leonsis told The Washington Post that he would comply with Stern in part because he didn't want to be fined, but the Wizards clarified those comments, saying the commissioner did not order Leonsis to keep quiet about the matter under threat of penalty.

"The idea of being fined was never intimated to him at all," Kehl said.

Frank reiterated that Stern's suggestion was not a gag order, but rather a gesture to let Arenas know he had the support of the commissioner if he didn't want to talk about his conviction.

"Gilbert's paid a huge price here," Frank said. "The commissioner wanted him to know that we're going to support him."

The Wizards are still free to talk about Arenas' basketball psyche, however, and team President Ernie Grunfeld gave some insight on that topic at his state-of-the-team news conference Thursday. Grunfeld said Arenas has been very upbeat while playing pickup games at the Verizon Center for the last two weeks and was the first player to pass the Wizards' preseason conditioning test.

"Gilbert has always been a basketball junkie," Grunfeld said. "He loves the game. He loves to be in the gym. He's always been an extremely hard worker, and he's doing the same things he's done in the past. He's been in the gym. He comes back and shoots at night. He's been in the weight room. He's in outstanding shape, and I think he's really looking forward to this season."

That's what the Wizards need to hear, given that Arenas has four years remaining on the six-year, $111 million contract he signed in the summer of 2008. No. 1 overall pick John Wall is the new face and future of the franchise, something that might require an ego adjustment from Arenas, but Grunfeld thinks the two can be a good on-court combination.

Asked if he thought Arenas had learned his lesson from the events of last season, Grunfeld wouldn't bite.

"He's put in all the time that he needs to put in," Grunfeld said.

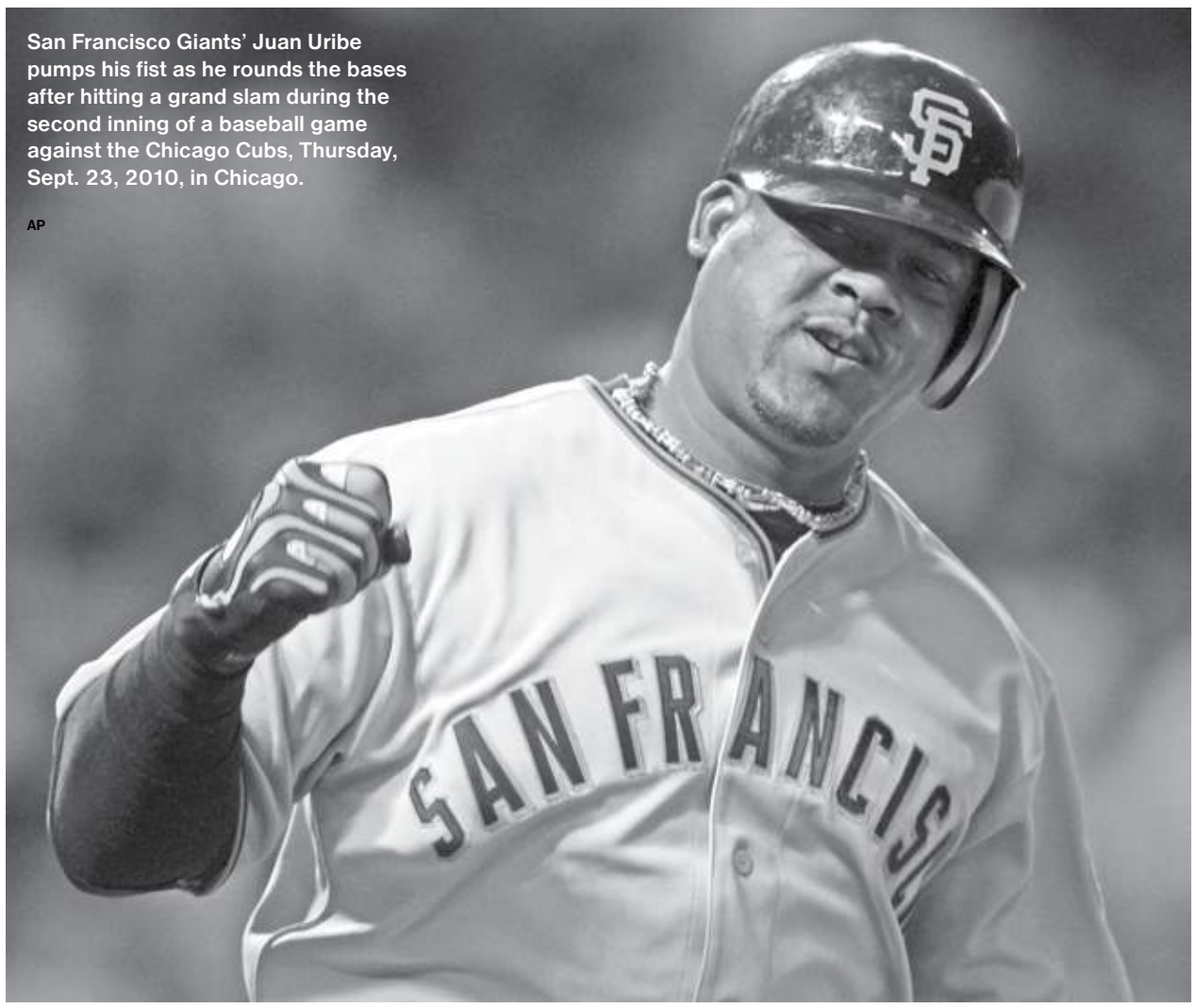
Uribe hits slam, 2-run HR in 2nd, Giants romp

CHICAGO (AP)—Juan Uribe hit a grand slam and a two-run homer in a nine-run second inning as the San Francisco Giants trounced the Chicago Cubs 13-0 Thursday.

Giants pitchers have gone 17 straight games giving up three or fewer runs, the longest streak since the Chicago White Sox set the record with 20 in a row in 1917, the Elias Sports Bureau said.

San Francisco began the day one-half game behind San Diego in the National League West. The Padres played later at Los Angeles. The Giants have the same record as idle Atlanta, which leads the wild-card race.

Uribe had only two hits in his previous 21 at-bats before his quick six RBIs as the Giants teed off on Ryan Dempster (14-11) and reliever Thomas Diamond.



San Francisco Giants' Juan Uribe pumps his fist as he rounds the bases after hitting a grand slam during the second inning of a baseball game against the Chicago Cubs, Thursday, Sept. 23, 2010, in Chicago.

AP

Diamondbacks 10, Rockies 9

At Phoenix, Steven Drew homered and had four RBIs and Kelly Johnson hit a two-run shot as Arizona held off Colorado to complete a three-game sweep of the fading Rockies.

Colorado had won 13 of 15 in another late-season run to get close in the NL West, but leaves the desert 3Ω games behind San Francisco in the division and Atlanta in the wild-card race.

Jeff Francis (4-6) struggled in his second start off the disabled list and the Rockies got little production from Troy Tulowitzki to go home on a debilitating four-game losing streak.

Carlos Gonzalez hit his first career grand slam in the seventh inning and added a two-run single in Colorado's three-run ninth, but the Rockies couldn't come all the way back.

Cardinals 9, Pirates 2

At Pittsburgh, Albert Pujols hit his 40th and 41st home runs and Matt Holliday reached the 100-RBI mark to lead slumping St. Louis over Pittsburgh.

The Cardinals snapped a three-game losing streak and won for just the 13th time in 38 games since Aug. 14, the last day they were in first place in the NL Central.

St. Louis' chances of defending its division title remain slim. The Cardinals trail idle Cincinnati by 7 1/2 games with only 10 games left.

Pittsburgh had its season-high five-game winning streak come to an end. The Pirates are one defeat short of their first 100-loss season since 2001.

Nationals 7, Astros 2

At Washington, Michael Morse homered, doubled and drove in three runs, Roger Bernadina and Danny Espinosa hit two-run homers and Ross Detwiler earned his first win in nearly a year as Washington beat Houston.

It was the third consecutive win for Washington, and the first time they'd won three straight at home since July 29-31.

Houston has lost three in a row for the first time since early August.

Detwiler (1-2) pitched six innings, allowing two runs. It was his first win since Sept. 28, 2009. He missed much of the season after right hip surgery in February.

Brewers 8, Marlins 3

At Milwaukee, Corey Hart hit one of three Milwaukee homers to help Yovani Gallardo and the Brewers beat Florida.

Hart reached 30 homers for the first time in his career with his first-inning drive. Rickie Weeks and Prince Fielder hit consecutive shots in the seventh on the first three pitches of Sandy Rosario's major league debut.

Florida rookie Logan Morrison extended his streak of reaching base safely to 42 straight games, tying the best mark in the majors this season.

Rays 10, Yankees 3

At New York, B.J. Upton and Carl Crawford each drove in two runs in a seven-run sixth inning as the Tampa Bay Rays punished CC Sabathia in his much-anticipated rematch with David Price in a 10-3 win over the New York Yankees.

Price (18-6) labored through six innings but Sabathia (20-7) struggled even more. The Rays beat New York for the second straight day, splitting the four-game set and pulling within a half-game of the first-place Yankees in the American League East.

Yankees reliever Javier Vazquez equaled a big league record by hitting three straight batters in the seventh as the Rays added two runs without getting a hit.

Ten days earlier, Sabathia and Price showed why they're leading candidates for the AL Cy Young pitching award, each tossing eight scoreless innings in a game the Rays won 1-0 in 11.

Athletics 5, Rangers 0

At Oakland, California, Dallas Braden allowed one hit in eight innings as Oakland beat Texas to stall the Rangers' push for their first AL West title since 1999.

Braden (10-13) outpitched Cliff Lee to end his four-game losing streak and keep Texas' magic number at four for clinching the division.

The left-hander, who pitched a perfect game against Tampa Bay in May, retired 19 batters in a row after Nelson Cruz's two-out single in the first inning. Ian Kinsler ended the streak by drawing a leadoff walk in the eighth. Braden walked two and struck out seven.

Lee (12-9) set down his first eight batters before an uncharacteristic bout of wildness. He walked his first two hitters in the fourth, marking the first time he's walked consecutive batters in two years.

Blue Jays 1, Mariners 0

At Toronto, Jose Bautista drove in the only run with his major league-leading 50th homer to lift Toronto over Seattle.

Ichiro Suzuki also became the first player with 10 straight 200-hit seasons, breaking his own record with a fifth-inning single for the Mariners.

Bautista became the 26th player in major league history to reach the 50-homer mark with a first-inning shot off Felix Hernandez (12-12), who took yet another tough-luck loss.

Royals 4, Indians 2

At Cleveland, Sean O'Sullivan earned his first win as a starter for Kansas City and Joakim Soria converted his 33rd straight save in a victory over Cleveland.

O'Sullivan (3-6) gave up two runs and six hits over six-plus innings to beat Mitch Talbot (9-13). The right-hander left with a 3-0 lead and two on in the seventh. Philip Humber allowed both Indians to score, but stranded runners at second and third to end the inning.

Soria worked a perfect ninth for his 41st save in 43 chances this season. The All-Star reliever has tossed 21 2-3 consecutive scoreless innings and saved 65 percent of Kansas City's 63 wins.

Mike Aviles and Kila Ka'aihue homered for the Royals, who moved 1 1/2 games ahead of last-place Cleveland in the AL Central.

Paul Casey looking for another prize

THE TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP

ATLANTA (AP)—Paul Casey won't be going to the Ryder Cup. He wouldn't mind a $10 million consolation.

Casey was the only player among the top five in the FedEx Cup standings to break par Thursday, running off three straight birdies around the turn at East Lake for a 4-under 66 and a share of the lead with Geoff Ogilvy and Luke Donald in the Tour Championship.

It was the seventh time Casey has shot in the 60s in the nine rounds since European captain Colin Montgomerie left him off the Ryder Cup team. Whether that's motivating him to play well, the Englishman isn't saying.

A different kind of cup does have his attention.

At stake in this playoff finale is a $10 million bonus to the FedEx Cup champion. The top five in the standings—Casey got to No. 5 with his runner-up finish two weeks ago at Cog Hill—can claim golf's biggest payoff by winning, no matter what anyone else does.

"I've got an opportunity to accomplish one of the goals which I set for myself at the beginning of the year," Casey said. "I'm just trying to put myself in that position to win and then tick off that goal, which would be a huge goal. I'm not getting wrapped up in any sort of extra motivation. I don't need extra motivation. I'm motivated enough."

Breaking par was hard work on a difficult course in steamy conditions. The fairways are fast and more narrow than ever, and only nine players in the 30-man field broke 70.

One of them was defending champion Phil Mickelson, who has an outside chance to win the FedEx Cup and a better chance to replace Tiger Woods at No. 1 in the world. Woods did not qualify for the Tour Championship for the first time in his career.

Mickelson had two eagles in a span of four holes, including a shot he holed from the fairway on No. 12. Not so good was making bogey after both eagles, along with consecutive bogeys after his first birdie of the tournament. He shot 69, not a bad start.

"It's a better position than I started last year," said Mickelson, who opened with a 73 and went on to a three-shot victory. "Could have been better, could have been worse, and it was an interesting day."

Jim Furyk had a 67, while K.J. Choi was at 68. The group at 69 included Hunter Mahan, Jason Day, Kevin Na and Mickelson.

Matt Kuchar, the top seed in the FedEx Cup whose golfing career is rooted in Atlanta, chipped in for eagle on the 15th hole. That wasn't enough to offset for four bogeys in his round of 72, including a tee shot into the stands on the par-3 18th.

Dustin Johnson, the No. 2 seed, struggled off the tee on his way to a 73, while Steve Stricker (No. 4) also had a 74. Charley Hoffman, part of the top five from his victory at the TPC Boston, had a 71.

It only helps Casey and his bid to win the FedEx Cup when the four players ahead of him are behind him on the leaderboard, and he took notice of that when he glanced at video screens around East Lake.

"The big screens they have out there never go past the top 20, and I wasn't seeing anybody in the top five (in FedEx Cup standings) in that top 20," Casey said. "There is a very long way to go, though."

And he has enough company under par to remind him of that. Donald, who had a runner-up finish at the Deutsche Bank Championship to get to No. 7 in the standings, had six birdies in his round of 66.

Donald was among the three captain's picks for Europe and is hopeful of building some momentum, along with the winning the tournament, before heading over to Celtic Manor in Wales.

It was awkward for Donald when Casey was left off the Ryder Cup team for the first time since 2002, particularly because Donald's brother in Casey's caddie. Still, he didn't see a correlation in Casey's recent form to any Ryder Cup snub.

Even though Casey hasn't won a tournament this year, he is No. 7 in the world ranking. That wasn't an accident. "You expect him to play well," Donald said.

The best news for Ogilvy, an Australian, is that he's starting to expect himself to play well. Ogilvy has not won since the season-opening SBS Championship at Kapalua, and he didn't so much as contend until the TPC Boston. That helped him get to the Tour Championship, even entertain thoughts of winning the FedEx Cup as the No. 12 seed.

"You can't come out and say, 'Hey guys, I'm going to play well in the next few weeks,' because it doesn't quite work like that," Ogilvy said. "But I think I get a pretty good feel for when it's coming around. But I don't know why."

So does he feel his game coming around? Ogilvy smiled.

"I think so," he said.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	92	61	.601	–
Tampa Bay	91	61	.599	1/2
Boston	84	68	.553	7 1/2
Toronto	77	75	.507	14 1/2
Baltimore	61	91	.401	30 1/2

Central Division

x-Minnesota	92	60	.605	–
Chicago	80	72	.526	12
Detroit	77	75	.507	15
Kansas City	63	89	.414	29
Cleveland	62	91	.405	30 1/2

West Division

Texas	84	68	.553	–
Oakland	77	75	.507	7
Los Angeles	75	77	.493	9
Seattle	58	94	.382	26

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Philadelphia	92	61	.601	–
Atlanta	86	67	.562	6
Florida	76	76	.500	15 1/2
New York	74	78	.487	17 1/2
Washington	65	88	.425	27

Central Division

Cincinnati	86	67	.562	–
St. Louis	78	74	.513	7 1/2
Houston	73	80	.477	13
Milwaukee	71	81	.467	14 1/2
Chicago	69	83	.454	16 1/2
Pittsburgh	53	99	.349	32 1/2

West Division

San Francisco	86	67	.562	–
San Diego	85	67	.559	1/2
Colorado	82	70	.539	3 1/2
Los Angeles	74	79	.484	12
Arizona	62	91	.405	24

Yesterdayís Games

St. Louis 9, Pittsburgh 2
Washington 7, Houston 2
San Francisco 13, Chicago Cubs 0
Milwaukee 8, Florida 3
Arizona 10, Colorado 9
L.A. Dodgers 3, San Diego 1
Toronto 1, Seattle 0
Kansas City 4, Cleveland 2
Tampa Bay 10, N.Y. Yankees 3
Oakland 5, Texas 0

x-clinched division

TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP SCORES

ATLANTA (AP)–Scores Thursday from the $7.5 million Tour Championship at the 7,319-yard East Lake Golf Club:

FIRST ROUND

Geoff Ogilvy	66
Luke Donald	66
Paul Casey	66
Jim Furyk	67
K.J. Choi	68
Kevin Na	69
Hunter Mahan	69
Phil Mickelson	69
Jason Day	69
Kevin Streelman	70
Ryan Moore	70
Tim Clark	70
Robert Allenby	71
Nick Watney	71
Ben Crane	71
Retief Goosen	71
Ernie Els	71
Charley Hoffman	71
Matt Kuchar	72
Camilo Villegas	73
Dustin Johnson	73
Bo Van Pelt	74
Zach Johnson	74
Ryan Palmer	74
Justin Rose	74
Adam Scott	74
Steve Stricker	74
Jeff Overton	75
Bubba Watson	75
Martin Laird	75

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PIC

From Page 28

Cycle Race in December.

This Sunday's event is one of the series of bike race PIC's F&B Department is organizing to support cancer victims and their families.

In April this year, PIC had a 50-kilometer race with Butch Sublemente edging Mieko Carey and Lewie Tenorio in a close fight in the road bike division.

Sublemente submitted one hour, 40 minutes, and 55.15 seconds in the fundraiser to finish ahead of 54 other participants. Carey was second with her 1:40:55.34, while Tenorio finished third at 1:44:55.81.

In the mountain bike division, Harold Balana prevailed against 38 other riders after timing in at 1:51:12.97. Noel Altamirano placed second with a time of 1:54:39, while Irineo Isip was third at 1:55:23. ***(Roselyn B. Monroyo)***

Black Stallions lead in Masters Division

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

The TDI Black Stallions continue to lord it over Saipan Electronic Dart Association's Masters Division following a 10-7 victory against D'Pirates Bar & Grill's M-Destroyers Tuesday night.

The two teams won a pair of cricket games, but home team M-Destroyers swept both Partners 501 matches.

The Black Stallions tied up the score after winning three of the four sniper matches and a game of wild cricket. The league leaders then turned it on at the end, taking three of the four singles 301 games for the automatic win and added the final team 1001 Cherry match.

The victory improved Black Stallions' win-loss mark to 94-42, followed by Oleai Beach Bar & Grill's Erap Snipers (89-47)

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Jonny's Just 4 Fun players smile for the camera in their home bar after registering their first team win of the 2010 SEDA Masters Division season Tuesday night.

Black Stallions' Jun Olita recorded a High-Out of 151, while Leo Lindo of M-Destroyers scored a High-In of 160.

In other Masters Division matches Tuesday, Just 4 Fun beat Angry Dragons, 9-8; Erap Snipers shot down Red Horse, 10-7; and D'Companeros tamed Bull Shooters, 11-6.

Salbahe Bros. top Tuesday B

Buddies Bar & Grill's Salbahe Brothers 2 beat Naughty Boys, 10-5, at home to continue its reign atop the Tuesday B Division.

Salbahe Brothers 2 won three of four singles 301 matches, a game of wild cricket, and swept both partners 501 matches to pole vault ahead.

The team then secured the automatic victory after winning a pair of cricket matches and added a game of partners baseball with the final team 1001 to pad its lead in the standings.

The win allowed Salbahe Brothers to keep the lead with an 80-40 mark, followed by Tijuana Mexican Restaurant's Mix-Blood Shooters (77-43).

Notables last Tuesday include a High-In of 146 by Mario Abo of B-Destroyers and a High-Out of 158 by teammate Ricky Cardinez.

Other Tueday B matches saw McJudystar beat Fantastic, 9-6; Mix-Blood Shooters take down IDK, 10-5; and B-Destroyers slay Samurais, 10-5.

Emon Lodge to host golf tournament

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Emon Lodge 179, in coordination with the Fil-Taga Golf Association, will be hosting the Inaugural Grand Master's Golf Cup on Oct. 24 at the Kingfisher Golf Links.

Proceeds from the tournament will be donated to the Shriner's Hospital for Burned and Crippled Children in Manila, Philippines.

There is a $90 entrance fee per player. Show time is scheduled for 12noon with a shotgun start at 12:30pm.

During the tournament, players will have two chances to win $5,000 if they sink a hole-in-one in holes No. 8 or 12.

For an additional $20, players can enter to win the closest to the pin side bet on the course's four par-3 greens. The money raised in the side pot will be quartered and awarded to the winners of each hole.

Trophies will be awarded to the top three place finishers along with a $700 cash prize to the champion, $500 to runner-up and $300 to third place. Cash prizes of $200 for fourth place and $100 for fifth place will also be issued.

The tournament format incorporates the Peoria scoring system and is open to both men and women. Men will tee off from the resort tees and women from the red tees.

After the tournament, an awards presentation and $1-per-coupon raffle drawing with cocktails served will take place at Aqua Resort Club's Rey Lounge.

Interested golfers can sign up and submit payment at Joeten Sporting Goods, the local courses, or by contacting Fil-Taga members Eli Buenaventura at 483-1671, Mike Cruz at 483-7171, Gener Garcia at 287-1922, Mando Guban at 483-6033, Ted Malaran at 287-1227, or George Sablan at 483-4530. Late entries will be honored without penalty on the morning of the tournament.

BAYANI

From Page 28

only a basket to tie the score, which read at 93-91, in favor of Bayani.

However, Estolas instead of going strong to the basket, stepped on the breaks and decided to go for a pass, which went to no one, as his teammates were already heading to the paint expecting the SIP guard to go all the way to the basket.

The leather went out the sideline and Bayani regained possession with four seconds left on the clock. SIP then gave up a preemptive foul on Mangali, who went 1-for-2 from the stripe, upping Bayani's lead to three, 94-91.

SIP coach Marvin Deocares sued for time to set up the team's final play, which was not completed when Estolas missed his 3-point attempt at the buzzer.

The first victory of the season almost slipped away from Bayani's hands when it bungled a 20-point lead in the second quarter and Mobil recovered in the third quarter and even took the lead in the fourth, 73-70.

Bayani regained the lead, going into the last two minutes of the game on Mangali's back-to-back baskets, 85-81, but SIP kept on fighting back until miscommunication in the homestretch sealed the loss for Deocares' wards.

Lerio Pagarao top-scored for Bayani with 23 points, while Mangali chipped in 22.

Estolas paced SIP with 23 markers.

The SIP-Bayani tiff was first played on Sept. 16, but was rained-out with the latter ahead, 30-16, 45 ticks to go in the opening period.

MAFEA/Konflikt 82, NMBA/ Island Apparel 72

In the second game, MAFEA/Ali'i Konflikt also ended the regular season on a winning note after outclassing NMBA/Island Apparel**,** 82-72.

MAFEA improved to a 4-1 record and is assured of the No. 2 seed in the playoffs, while Northern Marianas Bartenders Association had a 2-4 mark, tying SIP and Samahang Ilonggo sa Saipan/Marianas Wireless' marks.

The Island Apparel-supported NMBA was in control of the game in the first half, but MAFEA/Ali'i Konflikt regrouped in the second half to steal the win.

Trailing at the break, 31-39, Melvin Capalad and Elmer Esdrelon teamed up in MAFEA/Ali'i Konflikt's recovery in the third period. The duo combined for 18 points, lifting MAFEA/Ali'i Konflikt to a 60-55 lead at the end of the third period.

Badong Camacho then picked up where Capalad and Esdrelon left off, knocking in 10 of his 13 points in the final quarter to give MAFEA/Ali'i Konflikt a 10-point win.

Brandon Talania led MAFEA/Ali'i Konflikt with 16 markers, keeping the team afloat in the first half. Capalad finished with 14, while Bruce Berline and Esdrelon added 12 and 10, respectively.

Manny Matagolai had 26 points for NMBA, but was held to two field goals in the fourth quarter.

First Game

Bayani-Soul Jazz 94 – L. Pagarao 23, Mangali 22, Javier 14, Inos 14, Tabora 7, J. Pagarao 6, Camacho 4, Lansang 2, Saplan 2.

SIP-Mobil 91 – Estolas 23, Peredo 14, Gapor 14, Manalo 11, Gamboa 8, Muleta 7, Ruluked 7, De Guzman 5, Factor 2.

Scoring by quarters: 30-19, 49-38, 66-63, 94-91.

Second Game

MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt 82 – Talania 16, M. Capalad 14, Camacho 13, Berline 12, Esdrelon 10, W. Capalad 6, G. Barbo 5, Fernandez 4.

NMBA-Island Apparel 72 – Matagolai 26, Yabut 12, Mina 9, Sison 7, Paraiso 6, Tengco 6, Guiang 4, Mendiola 2.

Scoring by quarters: 16-21, 31-39, 60-55, 82-72.

RANGAMAR

From Page 28

with his time of 2:01.66. Joining Kela in the next round were three runners from Australia, two from Vanuatu, and one each from Papua New Guinea and Fiji.

The fourth CNMI bet to see action in the Oceania championship was Ryan Ichihara, who was fielded in the 200m race yesterday morning.

Ichihara finished third on his heat with a time of 24.84 seconds, however this was not enough to give me a slot to the next round.

Fiji had the two fastest qualifying time in the 200m race with Ratu Banuve Tabakaucoro and Beniamino Maravu recording 21.82 and 21.91 seconds, respectively.

The CNMI sent five athletes to the Oceania championship with Brandon Phillip completing the list and waiting for his debut. Philip was scheduled to compete in the long jump yesterday and will be running the 100m preliminary race today.

Joining the five Commonwealth athletes in the Land Down Under is Micronesian regional representative Robin Sapong, who will be attending the Oceania Athletics Association Congress this weekend.

TRENCH

From Page 28

economy and seemingly unending payless paydays, ticket prices for Trench Warz 13 will be just $25 for all seats, according to Trench Tech Promotions president Cuki Alvarez.

The main event of the night features a revenge match between Guam's Ryan "The Dentist" Urquizu and Saipan's very own Giovanni "Palaxi" Sablan.

Urquizu lost his first encounter with Sablan in 2007 at Preba Hao 10 on Guam via technical knockout in the third round of their main event match up.

The Guamanian now vows to revenge his loss against Sablan come October.

Also confirmed is a USA vs. Japan match in the 160-lb division between American J.J. Ambrose, who appeared on the UFC preliminaries of The Ultimate Fighter, and Japanese fighter Masakazu Taguchi.

"Ten other bouts are being set up and will be available soon. Stay tuned for details on the fight card," said Alvarez.

In related news, Trench Tech Promotions is currently looking for an opponent for first-time MMA female competitor Niana Dela Cruz.

Dela Cruz is 18 years old and weighs 135 lbs. If anyone is interested, call Alvarez at 483-4662.

Credentials require that she must be at least 18 years old, preferably also a first-timer and matches the weight of Dela Cruz.

Source: Nelson expected to leave Warriors Monday

Page 25

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Uribe hits slam, 2-run HR in 2nd, Giants romp

Page 26

Rangamar wins silver in Australia

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

CNMI's Lia Rangamar won a silver medal in the 2010 Oceania U20 Area Championships during the start of the competition last Thursday at the Barlow Park in Cairns, Australia.

Rangamar competed in the javelin throw and recorded 35.17 meters to finish second behind the Cook Islands' Patricia Taea, who notched the gold medal after posting 37.17m.

Taea and Rangamar's marks were way behind the meet record of 46.96m, which New Zealand's Hayley Wilson submitted in 1996.

Besides Rangamar, two other CNMI youth athletes debuted in the regional championships—Reylynn Sapong and Douglay Dillay.

Sapong raced in the women's 400m run and was just one step away from advancing to the next round. The Marianas High School student timed in at 71.31 seconds in the 400m run to finish ninth in the event. Only the Top 8 finishers marched to the next round.

Fiji's Suliana Gusuivalu topped the heat in the 400m race, clocking in at 57.55 seconds, more than 50 seconds behind the meet record (57.01 second) of Renee Robson of Australia.

Dillay debuted in the U20 championship via the 800m run also failed to make it to the next round after placing 10th. Again, only the Top 8 runners were given tickets to the next round. Dillay tallied 2:12.69 in the preliminary heat, besting three other runners.

New Caledonia's Adrien Kela ruled the preliminary race in the 800m run

See RANGAMAR on Page 27

Lia Rangamar, seen here training for the javelin throw at the Oleai Sports Complex, won a silver medal in the Oceania championship in Cairns, Australia last Thursday.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

PIC hosts Bike for Life 3 tomorrow

Pacific Islands Club's Food & Beverage Department is holding the third edition of the Bike for Life race this Sunday.

Check-in time is at 5:30am, while the race will start at 6:15am. Entry fee is only $20.

The race will start and end at the southern parking lot of PIC in San Antonio with riders heading to Beach Road all the way to the northern portion of the island. The 40-kilometer course will be mostly flat with riders making a U-turn at Paupau beach and heading back to PIC.

The PIC Bike for Life 3 will have competition in two divisions—the mountain and road bike categories. The top finisher in each division will receive $50 cash, while gift certificates from PIC await other winners.

The race is recommended for riders who will be competing in the 2010 Hell of the Marianas Century

See PIC on Page 27

Bayani avoids regular season shutout

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Bayani-Soul Jazz gained its first win on its last game in the regular season of the 2010 United Filipino Organization Inter-Organizational Reinforced Basketball League after slipping past Samahang Ilokano at Pangasinense-Mobil, 94-91, last Thursday at the JP Center Basketball Court.

Bayani-Soul Jazz ended the regular season with a 1-5 record and despite the win, will still be seeded last in the playoffs. SIP absorbed its third straight loss, dropping the team to a 2-4 record for a three-way tie for the fourth to sixth spot in the team standings.

To break the deadlock and determine the seeding in the playoffs next week, league organizers will review first the scores of the three teams in their head-to-head duel.

SIP had a chance to send the game into overtime, but Jun Estolas committed a costly error in the last 10 seconds of the match.

The miscue came after Eugene Mangali muffed two free throws, which could have given Bayani a four-point lead. After Mangali's second miss, SIP collared the rebound and Estolas sprinted to their frontcourt, needing

See BAYANI on Page 27

Bayani-Soul Jazz and SIP-Mobil players battle for the rebound during their game in the UFO caging last Thursday at the JP Center Basketball Court.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Trench Warz 13: Vengeance set on Oct. 29

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Trench Warz 13: Vengeance is set to go down on Oct. 29 at Saipan World Resort's Royal Taga Hall Ballroom.

In addition to an awesome 12-bout mixed martial arts card, "Vengeance" will be in the spirit of Halloween with a theme labeled "Fight Night-Fright Night," where prizes will be awarded to the scariest and sexiest costumes.

What's more, in light of the ailing

See TRENCH on Page 27